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THE SCOTTISH NATURALIST

Founded 1871

A Journal of Scottish Natural History

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Although the journal's main interests have always centred on the history and distribution of Scottish fauna and flora, it is prepared to publish contributions on the many aspects of Scottish natural science embraced by its title, including Zoology, Botany, Geology, History, Geography, Medicine and the allied sciences, Archaeology, and the Environment.

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With which is incorporated *The Annals of Scottish Natural History*
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By Dr. Alistair A. Clark

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THE HISTORY OF THE WESTERN MEDICAL CLUB, 1845-1902

By ALISTAIR A. CLARK
Vice-President, British Medical Association

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INTRODUCTION

I was elected a Country Member of the Western Medical Club in 1968, and over the years, having heard the Secretary read the minutes of the dinners of fifty and one hundred years ago on many occasions, my interest in the history of the Club and its members was stimulated. The final trigger which set me off on the trail to put pen to paper was the fact that the Inaugural Dinner was held at Bowling Bay, a few miles down the Clyde from Dalmuir, where I have lived for many years.

Bowling Bay also reminded me of the 1920s and early 1930s, when travelling on the train from Partick to Helensburgh you passed there and saw the paddle steamers moored for the winter in the harbour, perhaps the *Talisman*, *Jeannie Deans*, *Kenilworth*, *Dandie Dinmont* or *Lucy Ashton*, all with their L.N.E.R. colours of red and white striped black funnels.

This narrative is based on the various Secretaries' minutes of the meetings of the Club from 1845 to 1902. I have limited myself to this period, for these are the minutes contained in the first Minute Book of the Club. Also, as the years passed and I discovered more and more facts about, and illustrations of, the members themselves, the hotels and steamers in which they dined, the songs they sang, the poems they recited, the medical and historical background in which they lived, and their own remarkable achievements, the more I realised that this tale might not be finished before I was. I therefore stopped my narrative at the end of the first Minute Book of the Club, and it is hoped that the remainder of the history of the Western Medical Club will be written by Dr. Donald Macfarlane, based on the second and third Minute Books.

It should not be thought that the history of the Western Medical Club is simply a history of a convivial dining club, even with some very distinguished members. It is very much more than that. We see the members in their lighter and more relaxed moments, but there was a very serious side as well. The Club membership contained some of the most able, eminent and far-sighted men in medicine and the allied sciences of their time, whose impact on the environment and the lives of the people of Scotland can hardly be overstated.

The verdict of history now shows that they witnessed, were associated with, campaigned for, or initiated major changes or innovations, which by tackling and improving dreadful social conditions, the treatment of disease and injury, water purification, control of pollution, sewage disposal, etc, brought about immense

benefits and advancements in the social welfare, work-load, life-style, health and longevity of the people of our country and the environment in which they lived.

The end results of the work and influence of some of these early Club members and their colleagues are around us for all to see, but it may increase the interest in, and awareness of, these notable achievements, often relatively unpublicised at the time and now sometimes in danger of being forgotten, to place them alongside the historical events taking place in our country and throughout the rest of the world.

When I was researching this story I found that the contemporary Victorian history was both relevant and interesting. I therefore hope that others will also find the historical and biographical detours to be of some interest.

Dalmuir,
Dunbartonshire.

A.A.C.

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CHAPTER 1

**The Inaugural Dinner, the Formation of
the Western Medical Club, and the other three Dinners held at Bowling**

The first Minute Book of the Western Medical Club is a tooled, black leather-bound, brass-locked, quarto-size volume, with gold lettering 'W.M.C. Minute Book' on the front cover. After a preliminary section giving the names and addresses of members, plus their attendances at Club dinners, the main section contains all the minutes of the Club, from the Inaugural Dinner held at Bowling on 25th July 1845 to the winter dinner held on 30th January 1902 in the Central Hotel, Glasgow. The minutes of the Inaugural Dinner read as follows:

Inaugural Dinner

"25th July 1845 - By previous arrangement the following Gentlemen, members of the Medical Profession resident in Glasgow, met at dinner this day, at Bell's Inn, Bowling Bay (Plate 1). Dr. A.D. Anderson, Dr. William Weir, Dr. John Macfarlane, Dr. Robert Perry, Mr. George Watson, Dr. David Gibson, Dr. J.G. Fleming, Mr. William Lyon, Dr. Alexander Maclaverty, Dr. A.M. Adams, Dr. Andrew Anderson.

Dr. A.D. Anderson was appointed Chairman and Dr. Robert Perry, Vice-Chairman. Letters were received from several Gentlemen expressing their disappointment at not being able to attend.

In the course of the evening, which was spent with great hilarity, it was agreed to institute a Club with the object of promoting friendly and social intercourse among the members of the medical profession in Glasgow and the West of Scotland and Drs A.D. Anderson, Perry, Macfarlane, Gibson, Weir and Fleming were appointed a committee to draw up regulations and generally to arrange the constitution of the Club. It was proposed that the next meeting of the Club should take place in Glasgow on the last Friday in January, when Dr. Perry should be Chairman and Dr. Macfarlane, Vice-Chairman. Dr. J.G. Fleming was requested to act as interim Secretary".

Eleven doctors attended the Inaugural Dinner, the majority of whom were of considerable standing in the Glasgow Medical School (Rodger, pers. comm.). Of the eleven doctors present, seven had been, or were to be, Presidents of the Faculty (see Note 1). Dr. J.G. Fleming, the first Secretary of the Club, was President in



Plate 1

Bell's Inn, Bowling Bay

This was the venue for the Club's Inaugural Dinner on 25th July 1845, and two subsequent dinners were held here, in 1850 and 1867. By 1867 a Mrs Moncur was the proprietor; later renamed the Sutherland Arms Hotel, it ultimately closed about 1930.

1865-1868 and again in 1870-1872. The other six Presidents were Robert Perry (1843-1845), George Watson (1845-1847) William Weir (1847-1849), Alexander D. Anderson (1852-1855), William Lyon (1860-1862), and Andrew Anderson (1868-1870).

Moreover, seven of these eleven doctors were professors or lecturers in the Glasgow Medical School (Comrie, 1932: 538-540, 661-664), which at that time included the University, Anderson's College, Portland Street Medical School, and College Street Medical School, as follows: Andrew Anderson (Professor of Physiology and later Professor of the Practice of Medicine in Anderson's College), Andrew Maxwell Adam (Lecturer in Midwifery at Portland Street and later Professor of Physiology at Anderson's College), David Gibson (Lecturer in Botany at Portland Street Medical School) (see Note 2), John MacFarlane (Professor of Medicine at Glasgow University), William Lyon (Lecturer in Surgery at Portland Street), and William Weir (Lecturer in Medicine, and later in Physiology at Portland Street School) who was also Editor of the *Glasgow Medical Journal* for several years.

The Portland Street and College Street Medical Schools flourished at the beginning of the nineteenth century, but both dwindled and ceased to exist by the 1840s. The last Lecturer in Anatomy at Portland Street was Dr. Robert Knox, who had moved from Edinburgh after he was involved in acquiring bodies from the infamous Burke and Hare (Anon., 1871; Comrie, 1932: 539).

Dr. Alexander Maclaverty was the only one of the eleven doctors present at the Inaugural Dinner who was not on the teaching staff of the Glasgow Medical School, nor did he become President of the Faculty. He qualified M.D. at Edinburgh in 1838, and became a Licentiate of the Glasgow Faculty in 1841. His probationary essay was *Comparison of the Advantages of Lithotomy and Lithotrity*. He practiced in Glasgow from 1841 to 1850, living at 9 Blythswood Square and consulting at 98 West Nile Street, where he shared a consulting room with four other persons, including a dressmaker. While in Glasgow he was a physician in the Glasgow Parochial Hospital and a surgeon to the Old Mains Asylum. In 1850 he moved to Ross-on-Wye in Herefordshire. He died in Edinburgh on 26th November 1899, and thus was probably the last survivor of the Inaugural Dinner of the Club at Bowling.

Bowling

The Inaugural Dinner was held in Bell's Inn, Bowling Bay. Three subsequent dinners were held in that area, in 1846, 1850 and 1867. There were two inns in Bowling Bay: Bowling Inn (later re-named Sutherland Arms Hotel) and a smaller

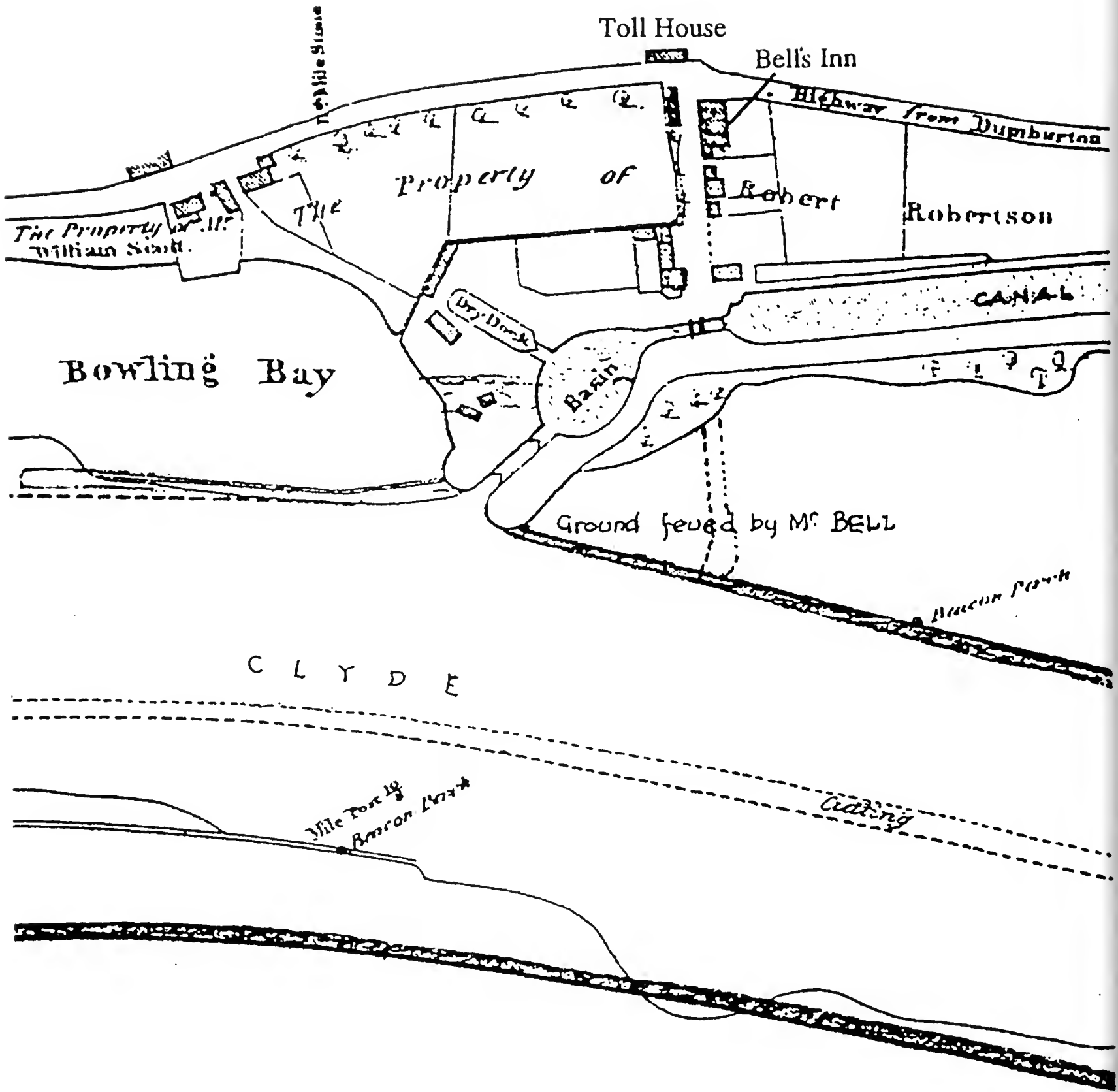


Plate 2

Map of Bowling Bay (c. 1840)
showing Bell's Inn and the Toll House

inn about two hundred yards further along the main road to Dumbarton (Lindsay, 1968). These two inns were completed and opened for business in 1790, the year that the Forth and Clyde Canal's western terminus was finished. This second inn is still functioning, and is now known as the Bay Inn. This inn belonged to the Auld family from 1838 until 1957, and from then belonged to the McLean family and still does (McLean, pers. comm.). The Bowling Inn appears on a map dated 1837, which shows an area of land rented by Robert Bell and intended for the building of a road from a jetty on the Clyde up to this inn (Plate 2). This confirms that the Bowling Inn is the one referred to in the first minute of the Club as Bell's Inn, Bowling Bay. It closed about 1930.

On the main road to Dumbarton, just immediately beyond the Bowling Inn, there was a toll bar with a toll house opposite the Inn (Macleod, 1886: 94). The Yoker to Dumbarton toll road was built about 1770, and was financed by the Duke of Argyll, Lord Frederick Campbell and Sir Archibald Edmonstone. This toll house at Bowling functioned until 1883, when road tolls were abolished. The toll bar and toll house (Plate 3) were functioning on the four occasions the Club met in Bowling, i.e. 1845, 1846, 1850 and 1867.

On this toll road from Yoker to Dumbarton there were also toll bars at Yoker burn, the present boundary between the City of Glasgow and Clydebank District, and at Duntocher burn in Dalmuir at the junction of Mountblow Road and Dumbarton Road. As stated, the roads in those days were financed and built by individuals, and the money spent on building the roads was recouped by the charging of tolls. The tolls charged were very variable, and related to the kind of merchandise or the number of passengers carried by the vehicle, or the number of horses pulling it. There were many anomalies; for example, if a farmer lived near a toll gate he could be charged every time he passed the gate, even for the shortest of journeys. There were increasing complaints, and public meetings were called from the 1840s onwards, until road tolls were abolished in 1883 and the building and upkeep of roads were then transferred to the local parishes.

When the doctors attended their Inaugural Dinner in 1845 there was a shipyard and dry dock in the north side of the terminal basin of the Forth and Clyde Canal. This shipyard was owned by a Mr. Thomas MacGill (Macleod, 1886: 47) who had moved his business from the Clyde at Broomielaw to this basin in 1800, some ten years after the opening of the canal. He began by repairing ships in his yard, but in 1804 he built his first ship; this was called the *Active*, built for a Captain Scott, and was the first ship to sail direct from Glasgow to Liverpool and back. Before the Clyde was deepened at Yoker, a point where ships often got stuck at low tide, ships entered the canal at Bowling and sailed up to Port Dundas in north Glasgow

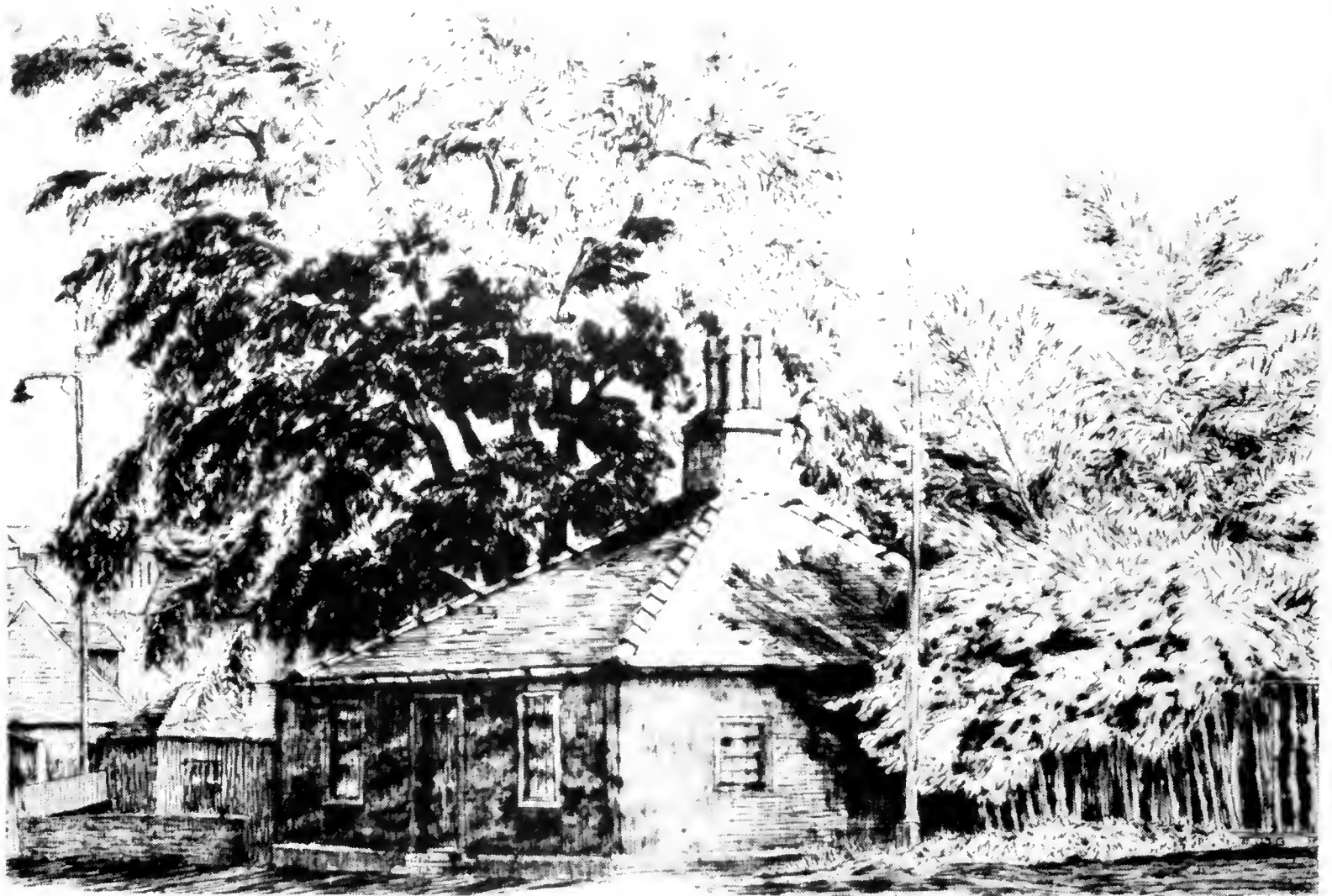


Plate 3

Toll House

A later engraving of the Toll House at Yoker, similar to the Toll House which formerly existed at Bowling Bay.
From an original etching (c.1900) by Dr. Thomas Strang, formerly Medical Officer of Health for Clydebank.



Plate 4

Bowling Bay and Wharf
mid-19th century

to unload. In the late 18th century a Mr. Dykes built ships in the shipyard and dry dock in this terminal basin (Macleod, 1886: 50) before MacGill moved there in 1800.

As it exists today, Bowling seems an unlikely place at which to hold four of the Club's summer dinners but, in fact, Bowling was described in the early nineteenth century as "famous as a health resort in the early months of spring - many delightful villas on its braes, and spacious terraces of superior houses on its plain. An inn and a hotel minister to the spiritual wants of the people" (Macleod, 1886: 45). This inn and hotel were respectively the Bay Inn and Bell's Inn mentioned above.

In those days the pleasant village of Bowling was two separate villages: Bowling Bay and Littlemill. The name Bowling was originally Bowland, said to be derived from the curve of the river bank, or to be of Gaelic origin meaning beautiful bay, but some other Gaelic scholars say the name is derived from *boghe*, meaning a submerged rock, and *linnhe*, meaning a pool.

Bowling Bay was the group of houses at the east end of the bay, and included the terminal basin at the western end of the Forth and Clyde Canal which opened into the Clyde (Plate 2). Littlemill was the village at the western end of the bay, and contained a mansion-house, houses, and the Littlemill Distillery beside the road to Dumbarton. The mansion house, Frisky Hall, was nearer the river. There was also a bleach-works in the village, and before that there was a fishing industry for salmon; "Porpoises came up the river in those days after the fish, and men were employed betimes to stand at Duglass and fire at them, so as to prevent their going past" (Macleod, 1886: 46).

Later in the nineteenth century, the two villages became very busy due to ships entering and leaving the canal (Plate 4), and also because of an increase in shipbuilding in the area, with ships using the two piers at Frisky and Bowling Bay. This increase in the use of the piers occurred from 1850, when the Caledonian and Dunbartonshire Junction Railway was opened, with trains running from Frisky to Dumbarton and Balloch.

Shipbuilding increased from 1834 when Charles Wood and George Mills (the son of a Provost of Glasgow) opened a shipyard on Littlemill's old bleach-field. Their slipway opened directly into the Clyde (Macleod, 1886: 51). Wood and Mills began by building large wooden ships (Plate 5), but after a few years split up and Mills started building iron ships, finally closing in the 1840s. In about 1846 the



Plate 5

Bowling Bay and the Clyde

Detail from the mid-19th century painting *View from Dalnottar Hill* by T. Dudgeon, showing ship being built at Wood and Mills' shipyard (right of centre) on north side of River Clyde.

Clyde Navigation Trust and the owners of the canal built a harbour in the bay, and this resulted in an enlarged terminal basin for the canal, so MacGill's yard had to close.

James Scott, an apprentice with MacGill at the time, went to Dumbarton to finish his apprenticeship. He returned to Bowling in 1851, and with MacGill's sons set up the Littlemill Slip Dock just west of the harbour. Eventually this firm became Scott and Sons, and continued building ships there until the 1970s (Scott, unpublished).

Frisky Hall was the venue for the Club's second summer dinner on 31st July 1846, and the 1850 summer dinner was again held at Bell's Inn, Bowling Bay. So apparently for these years Robert Bell ran both his Bowling establishment and Frisky Hall as hotels.

Frisky Hall had become a hotel in 1846, and probably became busier in 1850 when the Caledonian and Dumbarton Junction Railway opened, thus increasing the numbers changing their method of transport at Frisky (see Note 3). In 1858, however, this railway was linked eastwards to Glasgow and westwards to Helensburgh, and of course still continued to Balloch. This resulted in Frisky Hall hotel being bypassed, and it closed down shortly afterwards. In 1901 Frisky Hall became the offices of Scott and Sons.

The last dinner held by the Club in Bowling was in 1867, at Mrs Moncur's Inn, and this was the same inn (Bell's Inn) in which the Inaugural Dinner had been held. The minutes for this 1867 dinner finish by saying: "The meeting broke up at a timeous hour, most of the members returning to Glasgow by omnibus" although both railway and river transport were available at that time.

Formation of the Club

On the 8th August 1845, in accordance with the remit from the meeting held at Bowling in the previous month, the Committee of Management consisting of Drs A.D. Anderson, Perry, Macfarlane, Weir and Fleming, met that day in the Faculty Hall in St. Enoch Square and, after discussions, agreed a code of Laws for the Club. They instructed the interim Secretary to convene another meeting in the Faculty Hall on 14th November of all the doctors who had signified their intention of joining at Bowling; to consider the proposed Laws and also to nominate additional members. Dr. Robert Perry took the chair on 14th November, and the Committee appointed to prepare the Laws for the Club submitted these to the meeting. These Laws were fully discussed and, with some alterations, were

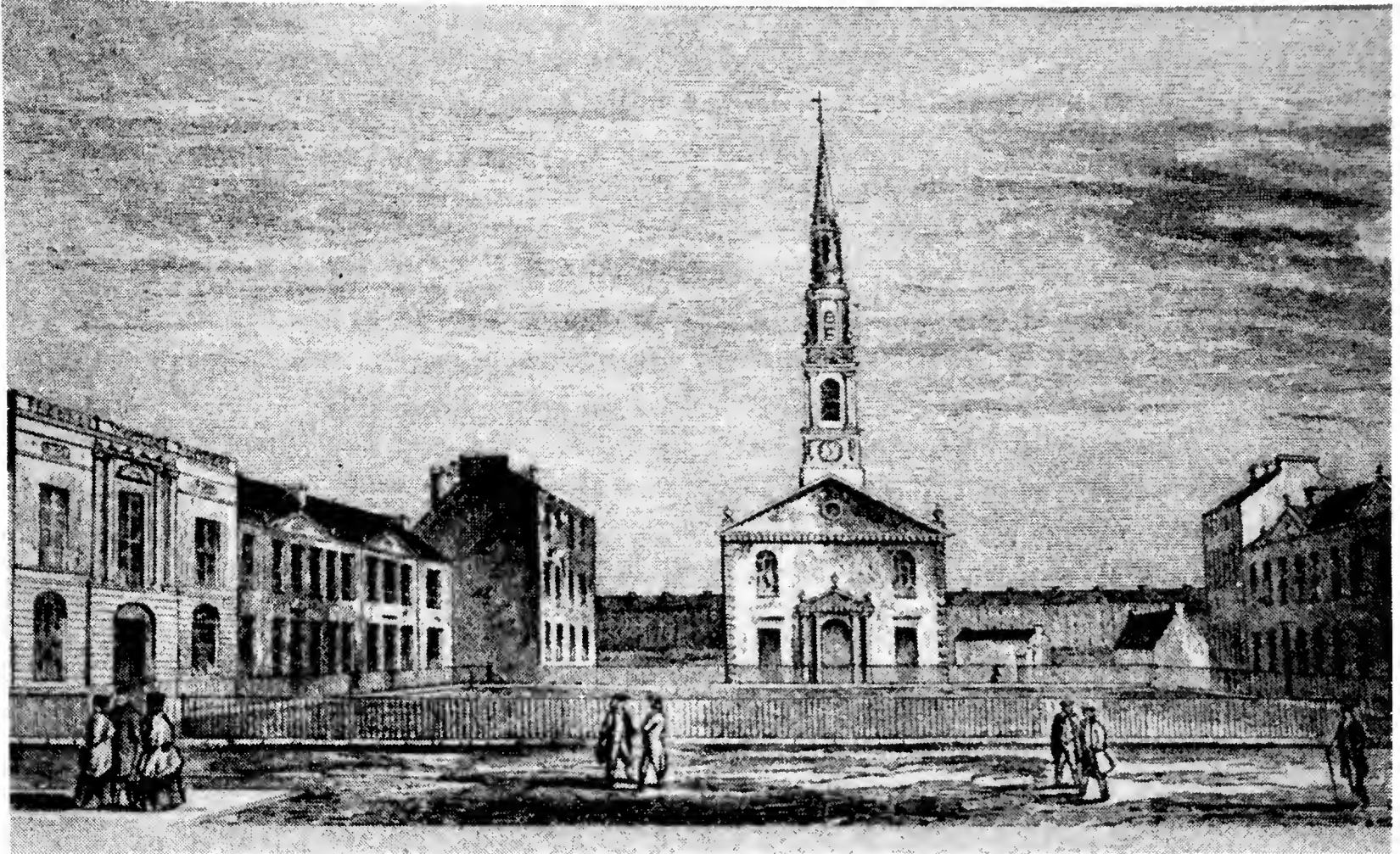


Plate 6

Faculty Hall, St. Enoch Square

The first Faculty Hall was opened in Argyle Street, just west of the Trongate Church, in 1698. In 1791 the Faculty moved to this new Hall on the east side of St. Enoch Square (extreme left building). Contemporary engraving, c. 1800.

adopted, subject to the approval of the General Meeting to be held in January. At this meeting, Dr. J.G. Fleming was appointed Secretary, and Dr. William Weir was appointed Treasurer; the Secretary was instructed to notify several more doctors from the City and the West of Scotland, who had been nominated as original members, and to advise the Committee of Management at its next meeting in the Faculty Hall on 29th December 1845 as to the results of these enquiries.

At this meeting on 29th December, Drs Perry, Macfarlane, Weir and Fleming were present. The Secretary reported that several doctors in the town and country had stated they wanted to be members of the Club. The managers present made other nominations, and the Secretary was instructed to close the list for original Town Members that day and for Country Members on 8th January 1846. The Treasurer was instructed to collect the first year's subscription from the Town Members and to intimate to Country Members that it was now due. It was also agreed that the members who had dined at Bowling Bay were only liable for the annual subscription payable in January. Drs Perry, Weir and Fleming were appointed as a sub-committee to make arrangements for the dinner in January 1846.

The Faculty Hall where these business meetings were held (Plate 6) was on the east side of St. Enoch Square (Rodger, pers. comm.), to where it had moved from its previous site on the south side of Argyle Street, just west of the Trongate Church, in 1791. The Hall in Argyle Street had been opened there in 1698. In 1862 the Faculty moved from St. Enoch Square to St. Vincent Street, its present site. The Great Hall was added to these premises in 1893, and it was there that many of the future winter dinners of the Club were held.

Founder Members

There were eventually forty-four original Founder Members of the Club, twenty-five Town Members resident in Glasgow and nineteen Country Members resident outwith Glasgow in the West of Scotland or elsewhere. Their names, as given in the Club's Minute Book, are as undernoted:

Town Members:

Adams,	Alexander Maxwell, M.D.
Anderson,	Alexander Dunlop, M.D.
Anderson,	Andrew, M.D.
Brown,	William, M.D.
Buchanan,	Andrew, M.D.
Crawford,	John, M.D.

Easton,	John A., M.D.
Ferrie,	William, M.D.
Findlay,	William, M.D.
Fleming,	John Gibson, M.D.
Gibb,	William R., M.D.
Lawrie,	James A., M.D.
Lyon,	William, Surgeon
Macdowall,	John, M.D.
Macfarlane,	John, M.D.
McGregor,	Robert, M.D.
Mackie,	Andrew, M.D.
Maclaverty,	Alexander, M.D.
Macleod,	James, Surgeon
Panton,	John, M.D.
Perry,	Robert, M.D.
Stewart,	Alexander, M.D.
Watson,	George, M.D.
Weir,	William, M.D.
Wilson,	James, M.D.

Country Members:

Buchanan,	Robert, Surgeon - Dumbarton
Campbell,	John, M.D. - Largs
Crawford,	Charles, M.D. - Gourock
Davidson,	William, M.D. - Largs
Gibson,	Thomas, M.D. - Rothesay
Hood,	Alexander, M.D. - Kilmarnock
Macfadzean,	Alexander, M.D. - Ardrossan
McKechnie,	Robert, M.D. - Paisley
McKechnie,	William, M.D. - Paisley
Mackie,	James, M.D. - Greenock
Maclachlan,	Thomas, M.D. - Rothesay
Paxton,	John, M.D. - Kilmarnock
Richard	B.M., Surgeon - Dumbarton
Skene,	John, Surgeon - Helensburgh
Sloan,	Charles F., M.D. - Ayr
Speirs,	John, M.D. - Greenock
Speirs,	John R, M.D. - Greenock
Torbet,	William, Surgeon - Paisley
Whiteside,	William, M.D. - Ayr

Minute Book

In the preliminary section of the Minute Book, the first fourteen pages contain a list of members from 1845 to 1855, with the year in which they joined the Club, followed by the year in which they died, resigned, or left the Club due to inadequate attendance. The next sixteen pages contain a list of the members and their attendances at the dinners from 1846 to 1856. The final six pages, before the minutes of the Inaugural Meeting, contain a list of members followed by their addresses, if Town Members, or the towns where they lived, if Country Members. Entries on the opposite page give the year members were elected, their attendances from 1845 to 1873, any offices they held in the Club, and finally when they left the Club, with the reason for their leaving. This practice was not continued after 1873.

It is most interesting to note the changes in the home addresses of the Town Members over the almost three decades from 1845 to 1873. To begin with, members lived mostly in the centre of the old city, such as West George Street, West Regent Street, St. Vincent Street, Hope Street, Carlton Terrace, and forgotten 'Places' such as Falkland, Brandon, and Annfield; then they began to move westwards. By the 1850s and 1860s some lived in Blythswood Square, Bath Street, Hill Street, Elmbank Street, Elmbank Crescent, and Woodside Crescent (which later became the 'Harley Street' of Glasgow).

Some of the Country Members in those times lived in very near proximity to the city, before the local Burghs, such as Partick, Govan and Mearns, got swallowed up by their larger geographical neighbour. It is also interesting to note that in those days the Medical Superintendent of Gartnavel Hospital was indeed a true Country Member, domiciled well outside the City, but at the present day he is still classified as a Country Member.

Other Country Members were quite definitely rural, living at Dalmellington, Catrine, Wigtown, Dunoon, Dundonald, Renton, Largs, Falkirk, Mauchline, Helensburgh, Rothesay and many other places. One member, a Dr. James Bruce, who joined the Club in 1860, attended only two dinners and resigned in 1864, presumably under the attendance rule - he lived in Liverpool.

CHAPTER 2

Early Annals of Club Management and Disputes over the Laws

The Committee of Management met on 8th August 1845 in Glasgow at the Faculty Hall in St. Enoch Square and agreed on a code of Laws, as instructed by the first meeting held in the previous month at Bowling. Present were Drs A.D. Anderson, Perry, Macfarlane, Weir and Fleming, who instructed the interim Secretary, Dr. Fleming to convene a meeting of all the doctors who had shown an interest in attending the meeting at Bowling, to consider the Laws the Committee had instigated and also to nominate additional members.

At this meeting on 14th November 1845, Dr. Perry took the Chair and the Laws drawn up at the meeting of the managers on 8th August were put to the meeting. There was full discussion, some alterations were made and the Laws were then adopted, subject to the approval of the General Meeting to be held in January 1846.

The First Dinner of the officially formed Club was held in the Black Bull Hotel in Glasgow at 5.00 p.m. on 30th January 1846. Dr. John Perry was in the Chair, with Dr. Macfarlane acting as Vice-Chairman in the absence of Dr. A.D. Anderson.

Laws of the Club

After the Loyal Toast had been proposed by the Chairman, the Secretary read the minutes of the Inaugural Dinner held the previous July in Bell's Inn, and then the minutes of the subsequent business meetings held in the Faculty Hall, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow. He then read, twice, the Laws of the Club which had been proposed at these meetings. The Laws were adopted by the meeting, and the Secretary was instructed to have them printed and circulated to the members.

Unfortunately, a copy of the original Laws cannot be found, but a Special General Meeting of the Club was held in the Faculty Hall, St. Vincent Street, Glasgow on 5th December 1866 to discuss the Laws as they then stood, particularly with regard to whether the Club should meet once or twice annually. These Laws are given in full later in Appendix 3.

The original Law regarding the frequency of meetings, as agreed in 1846, was that the Club should meet on the last Friday in January each year in Glasgow, and that a summer meeting should be held on the last Friday in July at a location in the West of Scotland.

Proposed Alterations to the Laws

The first proposed alteration to the original Laws was laid on the table at the summer dinner on 30th July 1847, signed by William Weir, James Wilson, John Macfarlane and R. McKechnie, as follows: "We move that the second law of the Club limiting the number of members should be rescinded and that the number both in Glasgow and the Country should be unlimited".

This motion was discussed at the next dinner in the Buck's Head Hotel, Glasgow, and was lost by a large majority, thus continuing the limitation of the Club membership to sixty.

At this same dinner, a proposal was laid on the table signed by William Weir, Robert Perry and J.G. Fleming, to make the following alteration to Law XI: "That in regard to Country Members the number of meetings from which absence is allowed, be extended to six". This proposed alteration was defeated by a large majority at the next dinner.

Another meeting of the Committee of Management was held in Glasgow on 4th July 1849, and the meeting decided that although Dr. Gibson and Dr. McLachlan of Rothesay had ceased to belong to the Club through non-attendance, they should be reinstated, having given reasons for their absence to the satisfaction of the managers and having expressed their desire to continue as members of the Club.

Drs James Mackie, William Davidson, John R. Spiers and Alexander McGowan, all of Greenock, and Mr. Alexander Todd of Kilmarnock, were declared to be no longer members of the Club, having failed to attend the meetings and pay the claims the Club had against them, though frequently requested to do so.

Also at this meeting it was decided that, since the last dinner had been cancelled due to a cholera epidemic, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively Dr. Anderson of Glasgow and Dr. Campbell of Largs, would exchange Office, in order to continue the unwritten rule that a Town Member be Chairman at the Glasgow winter dinner and a Country Member be Chairman at the summer dinner; thus Dr. Campbell would be Chairman at the next summer dinner, to be held at Inverkip in July 1849.

At the summer dinner at Inverkip, Drs William McKechnie, John Coats and John Macfarlane gave notice of a motion to be discussed at the next meeting, "That

in the future all meetings be held in Glasgow", but at the next dinner, held in Glasgow at the Star Hotel, this motion was withdrawn.

During the summer dinner held at Bell's Inn, Bowling Bay, in July 1850, two motions to alter the Laws were laid on the table:

(i) Proposed by Drs. A.D. Anderson, William Weir and J.G. Fleming "That in future the Club should meet only once a year alternately in Glasgow and the country".

and

(ii) Proposed by Drs McDowall, Robert McGregor and William Baird "That a class of Honorary Members be instituted, to be elected in the same manner as ordinary members and subject to all the Laws of the Club except Laws X & XI" which were respectively the payment of an annual subscription and the attendance rule with the payment of fines for not notifying the Secretary of inability to attend the meetings.

At the next dinner, in January 1851, the above proposal to meet only once per year was lost by a considerable majority.

Honorary Members

The motion for instituting a class of Honorary Members was amended as follows and carried unanimously: "In addition to the ordinary members there may be ten Honorary Members, five of whom shall reside in Glasgow and five in the surrounding towns. They shall be elected in the same manner as ordinary members and be subject to all the Laws of the Club except X & XI. No one shall be eligible as an Honorary Member unless he has been an ordinary member of the Club". At the next meeting of the Club, at the George Hotel in Kilmarnock, Dr. Robert McKechnie of Paisley was elected the first Honorary Member of the Club.

Revision of the Laws

At the winter meeting held in Carrick's Hotel, Glasgow, on 28th January 1853, the Committee of Management with the addition of Dr. Weir were appointed as a Committee, to revise the Laws of the Club and place the suggested alterations before the Club at the next meeting to be held in Greenock. The Committee met twice and proposed the following alterations to the Laws.

(i) that the Chairman for the time being shall have the privilege of inviting two friends to partake of the hospitality of the Club, the expenses consequent on such invitation being paid from the general fund, with the express understanding, however, that no medical man can be thus admitted if he be a resident practitioner in the district where the entertainment takes place.

(ii) that any member of the Club, having previously obtained the concurrence of the Chairman, may introduce a medical friend as a guest provided he is not a resident practitioner in the district where the meeting is held. The expenses consequent on the introduction of the stranger to be paid by the member by whom the introduction has been made.

(iii) that the meetings of the Club held on the last Friday in January should continue to be held as usual in Glasgow but that, as there are only five members from Dunbartonshire and that five out of the eleven members from Renfrewshire belong to the populous towns of Paisley and Greenock, while there are fourteen members resident in the county of Ayrshire, and being convinced that it is the wish of the Club to have the summer meetings as frequently as possible in a truly rural district, the Committee recommend that in future the July meetings should take place in the following order: that every second summer meeting should be held in Ayrshire and that the other July meetings should be held in Renfrewshire, Dunbartonshire or in some part of Clydesdale, as the Club may determine and further, that that this rotation be adhered to, except when some special circumstance may render an alteration advisable. (Note 4).

(iv) that the Chairman should not necessarily be a resident of the county in which the meeting is appointed to be held.

(v) that as too much indulgence has been shown in times past to those members who do not return their dinner tickets at the specified period the Committee recommend that it be an instruction to the Treasurer, in all cases, rigorously to exact the sum of five shillings from every member who does not comply with the reasonable request of the Club.

Acceptance of New Laws

At the dinner at Carrick's Hotel, Glasgow on 27th January 1854, all the alterations and suggestions in the Special Committee's report were accepted unanimously. Thereafter a lengthy discussion took place on possibly altering the periods of the year when the meetings of the Club should be held. After members had given many and differing opinions, another Special Committee was set up

which later unanimously agreed to recommend the following alterations to the dates on which the Club should meet: "First that as complaints have often been made that meetings twice a year are too frequent, consistent with professional and other avocations, the Club in future should meet once only during twelve months. Second in order to meet the convenience of the Country Members in particular, to whom travelling in the winter is always inconvenient, sometimes injurious and often impossible, the Committee recommend that the winter meeting in Glasgow should be changed to the last Friday of April. Third that the summer meeting should be held, in one or other of the prescribed country districts, on the last Friday of June, rather than July".

After further lengthy discussion at the next three meetings, and allowing a postal vote for those not present at the third meeting, it was decided unanimously at the Glasgow dinner in January 1856 that the Club should assemble only once in each year, alternately in town and country, i.e. the next town meeting taking place on the last Friday in April 1857 and the succeeding country meeting on the last Friday of June 1858.

Brief History of the Club

At the next meeting, at Ayr in July 1856, the new Secretary Dr. Thomas Watson wrote in his minutes that:

"On entering office he exhibited a brief statement of the history and present condition of the Club from which it appears that since its institution in 1845 there have been admitted of Town Members - 47, of Country Members - 51, in all 98, of whom one was afterwards elected an Honorary Member. Of these there have fallen out by death - 12; by resignation - 18; by absence without assigned cause for 4 or more consecutive meetings - 18; in all 48. The Club therefore now consists of 50 members of whom 24 belong to Town and 26 to Country. There are, therefore, vacancies at present for 6 Town and 4 Country members".

The Country Members were resident as follows:

Ayrshire	11
Renfrewshire	6
Dunbartonshire	4
Buteshire	2
Lanarkshire	2
Stirlingshire	1

Dr. Andrew Rankin, Lochside, New Cumnock, Dr. William Allan, Dalmellington and Mr. W.F. Cullen, Renton, were in due form proposed as new members, but since it was noticed that in consequence of the change of frequency of the meetings they could not, in strict order, attend a meeting prior to that of June 1858, the Standing Orders were then suspended and the three were at once unanimously elected.

New Laws Required

To meet this state of affairs Mr. Aitken of Kilmarnock proposed the abrogation of the Law requiring the proposal of new members at the meeting preceding their election, and since several of the existing Laws had already been altered, the Committee of Management was instructed to revise the entire code of Laws and to report to the next meeting.

In Glasgow on 24th April 1857 the Secretary submitted a report from the Committee of Management that since the formation of the Club the following alterations had been made:

"Entry money raised from 5/- to 10/6d. 10 Honorary Members could be elected, the Chairman can invite two guests at the expense of the Club, each member may bring one guest at their own expense. That every alternate summer meeting be held in Ayrshire, the President does not need to live in the district where the meeting is being held, a fine of five shillings if not replying in time to the billet calling a meeting and lastly only one dinner annually and alternately in Town and Country and the dinner to be held in Town in April instead of January and Country dinners in June instead of July".

The report from the Management Committee contained the following: "The change in the frequency of meeting (one annually) suggests to them the expediency of the following alteration to the Laws. According to the present state of matters, a candidate for admission, proposed at one and balloted for at another meeting cannot take his place for two years after his name has been submitted. Although this may be and has been obviated by suspension of the Standing Orders, your Committee recommend that, under the usual restrictions, any Gentleman may be at the same meeting proposed and balloted for, provided that the proposer shall have submitted his name, through the Secretary to the Committee of Management, not less than three days before the meeting. Further they recommend that absence without a reasonable apology from two instead of as at present from four consecutive meetings, shall be considered equivalent to resignation of membership".



Plate 7

Faculty Hall, St. Vincent Street

In 1862 the Faculty moved from St. Enoch Square to the present site in St. Vincent Street. A new Great Hall was added at the rear in 1893. This photograph dates from 1930. Further extensions took place in 1975 and 1989 when the Royal College bought the adjacent premises.

This report having been discussed, it was eventually moved by Dr. Fleming "that any candidate whose name shall have appeared on the billet of intimation, may be proposed, balloted for and, if elected, may be admitted to take his place at the same meeting".

The Standing Orders were suspended, and the motion was put to the meeting and carried. It was also determined that no change should take place in the Law regulating the resignation of members by non-attendance.

At the meeting held in the George Hotel, Glasgow in 1862, Mr. John Pollock of Mearns tabled a motion to be discussed and decided at the next meeting "that in future, all the meetings of the Club should be held in Glasgow". In April 1863 the motion was, after considerable discussion, defeated by a large majority.

The next meeting referred to in the Minute Book of the Club was a business meeting of the Town Members of the Club held in the Faculty Hall, St. Vincent Street (Plate 7) on 5th July 1866, called by Dr. John Coats, the Treasurer, to take into consideration the present state and future management of the Club.

No meeting had taken place in 1865 on account of the Secretary, Dr. James Fraser, having left Glasgow for Gatehouse-of-Fleet. It was decided that a dinner should take place in the Faculty Hall, with the President of the Faculty's permission, as soon as possible. Dr. William Leishman was appointed interim Secretary in place of Dr. Fraser.

Transactions of the Club

At the next meeting, held in the Faculty Hall on 25th July 1866, Dr. William Leishman was elected Secretary, and Dr. James E. Newman was elected Treasurer of the Club. The new Secretary then drew the attention of the members to a *Vidimus* (Note 5), of the entire transactions of the Club, which he had drawn up in tabular form in the hope that it might prove both interesting in itself and useful in indicating the principle on which the Club ought to be conducted. The Secretary was therefore requested to insert the accompanying three Tables into the minutes of the Club.

The Secretary further stated that with the new intake of members that day, despite the deaths and resignations, the Club now had a full complement of thirty Town Members and thirty Country Members. He also reported that he had several

Table I**Average Attendance of Members**

1. Average attendance, Club meeting twice a year	21.7
2. Average attendance, Club meeting once a year	16.6
3. Average attendance for the whole period during which the Club has been in existence	20.1

Table II**Total Membership till 1865**

	Membership	Resigned	Re-elected	Out by Rules	Dead	Remaining
Town	59	14	1	6	11	27
Country	88	8	2	20	10	28

Table III***Vidimus* of Meetings and Attendance of Members till 1865**

Date	Place of Meeting	Chairman	Town	Country	Total
Jan. 1846	Black Bull Inn, Glasgow	Dr. R. Perry, Glasgow	-	-	25
July 1846	Bell's Hotel, Bowling	Dr. J. Macfarlane, Glasgow	-	-	19
Jan. 1847	Wellington Hotel Glasgow	Dr. A. McKechnie, Paisley	15	9	24
July 1847	Auld's Hotel, Burns' Monument, Ayr	Dr. W. Whiteside Glasgow	21	9	30
Jan. 1848	Buck's Head Hotel Glasgow	Dr. J. Wilson, Glasgow	21	9	30
July 1848	Eglington Arms, Ardrossan	Dr. A. Macfadzean, Ardrossan	10	8	18
Jan. 1849	No meeting on account of cholera epidemic				
July 1849	Inverkip Hotel, Inverkip	Dr. Campbell, Largs	12	6	18
Jan. 1850	Star Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. A.D. Anderson, Glasgow	19	9	28
July 1850	Bell's Hotel Bowling	Dr. R. Buchanan, Dumbarton	11	6	17
Jan. 1851	Star Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. W. Weir, Glasgow	17	12	29
July 1851	George Hotel, Kilmarnock	Dr. Paxton, Kilmarnock	10	12	22
Jan. 1852	Carrick's Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. T. Marshall, Glasgow	18	7	25
July 1852	McLelland's Hotel, Mauchline	Dr. D. Hamilton, Mauchline	6	14	20

Jan. 1853	Carrick's Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. J.G. Fleming, Glasgow	16	8	24
July 1853	Tontine Hotel, Greenock	Dr. C. Crawford, Gourock	18	16	34
Jan. 1854	Carrick's Hotel, Glasgow	Mr. G. Watt, Glasgow	13	5	18
July 1854	King's Arms Hotel, Ayr	Dr. C.F. Sloan, Ayr	8	12	20
Jan. 1855	Carrick's Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. J. Aitken, Glasgow	23	7	30
July 1855	Woodrow's Hotel, Renfrew	Dr. W. Baird, Paisley	10	7	17
Jan. 1856	Carrick's Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. J. Jeffray, Glasgow	13	11	24
Dinner in future to be once a year; Town in April, Country in June					
July 1856	King's Arms Inn, Ayr	Dr. J.C. Haldane, Ayr	5	7	12
Apr. 1857	Carrick's Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. J.A. Easton, Glasgow	8	8	16
June 1858	Mitchell's Hotel, Balloch	Mr. B.M. Richard, Dumbarton	11	6	17
Apr. 1859	George Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. A. Buchanan, Glasgow	13	5	18
July 1860	George Hotel, Kilmarnock	Mr. J.M. Aitken, Kilmarnock	4	14	18
Apr. 1861	George Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. J.M. Pagan, Glasgow	8	7	15
July 1862	George Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. J. Wallace, Glasgow	8	7	15
Apr. 1863	George Hotel, Glasgow	Dr. C. Ritchie, Glasgow	12	7	19
June 1864	George Hotel, Kilmarnock	Dr. J. Paxton, Kilmarnock	10	10	20

additional proposals for new members which would be left over until vacancies occurred.

The Secretary then moved "that it be remitted to the Committee of Management to revise the rules of the Club and to submit a draft of those with any proposed alterations, to a Special General Meeting to be held in November". Considerable discussion followed, and Dr. Wallace drew attention to the fact that the Secretary's three Tables had shown that the average attendances at the Club had fallen considerably since the dinners had been reduced from two to one annually. "He strongly urged the expediency of reverting to the original constitution of the Club in this respect, having a summer and winter dinner".

A Special General Meeting of the Club was held on 5th December 1866 in the Faculty Hall at which the Committee of Management submitted a draft of the new proposed Laws of the Club.

Adoption of New Laws

The Laws were read verbatim and Laws I to III were adopted. Dr. Wallace moved, and Mr. Pollock, Chairman, seconded that the present Law IV be replaced by the original Law IV agreed when the Club was founded: i.e. "That the Club should have a winter dinner in Glasgow on the last Friday in January and that the summer dinner should be held on the last Friday in July in a convenient place in the West of Scotland". Dr. George Buchanan, seconded by Dr. Coats, moved an amendment: "That the Club should dine only annually, alternately in Glasgow and the country. The Glasgow meeting on the last Friday in April and the country meeting in the last Friday in June". After a long discussion the vote was taken. There was an equality of votes, and the casting vote was given by the Chairman in favour of Dr. Wallace's motion.

The remaining Laws V to XIII were adopted with a few verbal alterations. Because Law IV had been altered by Dr. Wallace's motion, the next dinner of the Club would take place in Glasgow on Friday 25th January 1867.

Laws to be Strictly Observed

At the summer dinner held at Mrs Moncur's Inn, Bowling on 26th July 1867, during discussion of the arrangements made for the dinner it transpired that a number of absent members had either not returned their tickets or had only done so on the eve of the meeting when all arrangements had been concluded. The

Committee were instructed, in all such cases, strictly to enforce the payment of the fine of 5/- as fixed by Law IV of the Club.

It was then moved by Dr. John Coats, with a view to avoiding this difficulty in future, which all along had been a source of constant trouble and annoyance to those by whom the dinner arrangements were made; "that in future, members who fail either to appear or to return their tickets on or before the day fixed, shall instead of the present fine of 5/- be charged the full sum marked on the dinner ticket". The motion was seconded by Dr. Cowan, and the Secretary was instructed to intimate this in the billet for the January meeting in terms of Law XIV.

At the next meeting in the Faculty Hall in January 1868, the motion proposed by Dr. Coats, after some discussion, was passed unanimously: that Law IV, paragraph 3, shall now be "that members who do not return their tickets on or before the day fixed shall be charged the full amount marked on the dinner ticket". This Law was to be strictly enforced.

At the summer dinner of the Club in July 1868 at Kilmarnock, the Secretary announced that the following had ceased to be members of the Club under Law XI, section 3, i.e., having been absent from four dinners consecutively - Drs Andrew Anderson and Alexander McIntosh of Glasgow and Dr. James M. Aitken of Kilmarnock. "A lively discussion thereupon ensued as to the propriety of the strict observance of the Rule under which the names of these gentlemen fall to be deleted. It was urged further that Dr. Aitken was only prevented from being present by severe illness and that in his case at least the law should not be enforced". Several doctors agreed to the contrary that all Laws be strictly enforced and anyway under Law XIV a vote could not be taken that evening to alter the Laws.

"It was then moved by Dr. Weir, seconded by Dr. Leishman, that seeing that a formal proposal of Dr. Aitken had been placed duly signed in the Secretary's hands, that the Standing Orders be suspended and the name of Dr. Aitken be placed first upon the list for ballot; this in consideration of the peculiar circumstances of Dr. Aitken's case, but on no account to be admitted as a precedent". The motion was carried with acclamation.

At the next meeting in the Faculty Hall on 29th January 1869, it was announced that the following gentlemen had been admitted as members of the Club, and all available vacancies were now filled: Dr. John Young and Dr. J.G. Wilson of Glasgow, and Dr. James M. Aitken of Kilmarnock. After dinner the Secretary intimated that Professor Lister had ceased to be a member of the Club in terms of

Law XI, i.e. poor attendance. Dr. Newman intimated his resignation from the Treasurership, which was received with much regret, and Dr. F.H. Thomson was elected as his successor.

At the following dinner on Loch Lomond, Dr. McFie Smith (a Country Member from Govan) moved "that in consequence of the large number of applicants for admission, the numbers of members in the Club should be increased". This was really being laid on the table for the next meeting, but gave rise to considerable discussion there and then, "in the course of which it became apparent that the general feeling of the members was adverse to such a change and Dr. Smith ultimately withdrew his motion".

The summer dinner of July 1874 was held in Brodick, Arran. Only five Town and eleven Country Members were present, and because of this Dr. P.A. Simpson, Vice-Chairman, after considerable discussion as to the best means of enforcing attendance, proposed that "in future members not attending the dinner should pay 5/- towards the expenses of the dinner". At the next dinner at the Faculty Hall, in 1875, after "somewhat animated" discussion and in deference to the opinions expressed by many members, the Chairman, Dr. P.A. Simpson, withdrew his motion.

At the same dinner, letters were read by the Secretary from Dr. J.G. Fleming and Dr. John Paxton, intimating their resignation from the Club. Great regret was expressed by the members concerning these resignation, since both were Original Members. The Secretary was instructed to write to both to communicate the expression of the deep and universal feeling of regret with which their resignations were received. Thereafter, following discussion, the Secretary laid on the table a motion that the Laws should be altered to allow three Honorary Country and three Honorary Town Members to be elected to the Club.

At the next summer dinner, sailing on Loch Lomond on the *Princess of Wales* on 30th July 1875, after further discussion the Committee were instructed to draw up an addition to the Laws to allow the election of Honorary members: "Three Town and three Country".

At the winter dinner on 2nd February 1876 at the Faculty Hall, the Secretary submitted the report of the Committee on the admission of Honorary Members:

"(1) That in their opinion the Honorary List should consist chiefly of the names of former ordinary members, whose seniority and position entitled them to this

special mark of distinction, and also under special circumstances, of distinguished members of the profession who may not have been members of the Club.

(2) That the names of Honorary Members should, as vacancies occur, be suggested by the Committee of Management and intimated on the Billet, and that for the election of each Honorary Member a show of hands should be taken at an ordinary meeting, when at least three-fourths of the members present must vote in favour of the proposal.

(3) That the Secretary shall intimate to the Honorary Members the ordinary meetings of the Club; and that they shall be entitled, on signifying their intention to the Secretary not later than the Tuesday preceding the meeting and in paying their share of the dinner bill, to dine with the Club.

(4) The Committee are not prepared to suggest a complete Honorary list of six names but beg in the meantime to nominate the following gentlemen:

Dr. J.G. Fleming - an Original Member and the first Secretary of the Club.

Dr. Allen Thomson, F.R.S.

Mr. John Pollock, Surgeon - Mearns

Dr. John Paxton, Kilmarnock - also an Original Member".

After considerable discussion in regard to the proposed admission as an Honorary Member of one who had not previously belonged to the Club, i.e. Dr. Allen Thomson, it was ultimately unanimously resolved on the motion of the Secretary, seconded by Dr. Wallace "that the report of the Committee be received and adopted". Thereafter, the names of the gentlemen nominated by the Committee were severally put to the meeting and unanimously elected by a show of hands.

As was noted above, when the altered Laws of the Club were agreed at the Special General Meeting on 5th December 1866, no mention was made in them of Honorary Members, although it had previously been agreed at the winter dinner of 1851 that "In addition to the ordinary members there may be ten Honorary Members, five of whom shall reside in Glasgow and five in the surrounding towns. They shall be elected in the same manner as ordinary members and be subject to all the Laws of the Club except X and XI. No-one shall be eligible as an Honorary Member unless he has been an ordinary member of the Club".

At the meeting immediately following, at the George Hotel in Kilmarnock in 1852, Dr. Robert McKechnie of Paisley had been elected as the first Honorary

Member, and apparently remained the only one until the meeting in February 1876. The records show that he had resigned from the Club in January 1851, so how long he remained an Honorary Member is unknown.

To continue with the minutes of the dinner of February 1876, the Secretary was instructed to print the Laws and to prepare a complete list of the membership of the Club from its foundation, with such information relative to the establishment of the Club, and its subsequent history, as might seem to him to be worthy of publication, and the same to be in the hands of members not later than the date of the next January meeting, i.e. January 1877. Unfortunately no copy of this can be found in the records.

At the winter meeting of the Club in January 1880, Dr. Scott Orr proposed, and Dr. J.G. Wilson seconded, "that a Committee be appointed to revise the Laws of the Club and to draw up a list of the membership to be submitted for approval at the next annual meeting in Glasgow". This was agreed, and the Committee duly appointed consisted of Drs. R. Scott Orr, J.G. Wilson, Bruce Goff, Mathew Mather and McCall Anderson, with Dr. Scott Orr as convener.

The revised Laws, a copy of which had been sent to every member, were approved, and the Secretary was instructed to append the Laws concerning Honorary Members, as approved at the meeting held on 2nd February 1876. Apparently the Honorary Secretary did this fairly soon thereafter, for this completed document is in the records. The revised Laws of 1881 are given in Appendix 3.

At the January 1885 dinner Drs John Robertson and B.M. Richard of Dumbarton and Dr. James McAllister of Kilmarnock proposed as follows: "We the undersigned propose that Law IV of the Laws of Western Medical Club read thus: The Club shall dine twice a year, on the last Thursday in January and the last Thursday in June. The January meetings shall always be held in Glasgow and the June meeting at a convenient place in the West of Scotland". Without being laid on the table at the previous meeting, this motion was carried. This altered the days of the two dinners from Friday to Thursday.

It was also proposed at this dinner that there should always be a piano and an accompanist at the winter dinner, and at least four pipers at each summer dinner. Neither motion was put to the vote.

At the summer dinner of 1887 on the P.S. *Prince of Wales*, sailing on Loch Lomond, Dr. T.G.F. Messer and Dr. J. Wallace proposed two motions "(i) That

the membership of the Club be increased from sixty to seventy by the admission of five additional Country Members and five additional Town Members and (ii) that any new member who fails to attend both the first and second meetings of the Club after his election, ceases to be a member of the Club". At the next meeting in Glasgow both these motions were negated.

At the winter dinner of January 1889, held in the Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, Glasgow, a very complicated motion concerning the admission of new members was proposed by Dr. James Finlayson, Professor George H.B. Macleod and Dr. J. Lawrence, which after much debate was withdrawn mainly because it was so complicated. So Rules VII and VIII remained as they were. Dr. Finlayson stated he "did not regret having brought the motion forward, if for no other reason than that it had drawn from his lair our former highly esteemed Secretary and Honorary Member Dr. Leishman".

At the meeting in the Grand Hotel, Glasgow, on 30th January 1890, the Secretary proposed the suspension of Standing Orders, and then proposed that the Law of the Club for appointing Honorary Members, which was added to the Laws in February 1876, should be altered to the extent of absolving such members from paying the annual subscription, and only paying the price of any dinner they attended. This was agreed at the summer dinner in Helensburgh in 1890. A motion by Dr. Bruce Goff, previously laid on the table, was also accepted unanimously: "that all *new* members residing within 5 miles of the Royal Exchange be put upon the Town list".

At the summer dinner of 1891, at Bothwell, Dr. Granger gave notice of a motion "that a revised list of Laws and of Members of the Club be published". This was agreed at the winter dinner of 1892, to include Laws for the election of six Honorary Members. A copy of these revised Laws, and a list of the Members as of 1st January 1892, is in the records.

It was requested at the winter dinner of 1894 that from now on the Secretary would read the minutes of the previous meeting, followed by some of the older minutes. This was agreed to, and the minutes of the first meeting of the Club were then read. Many of the names in that *sederunt* were quite familiar to some of the older members present at dinner that evening.

There was no further mention of the Laws of the Club. The last entry in the first Minute Book concerns the winter dinner in the Central Hotel, Glasgow on 30th January 1902.

CHAPTER 3

The Contemporary Scene

I think it would be of interest to recall briefly the contemporary history, particularly with regard to medicine, in Glasgow and the United Kingdom, with occasional international happenings, from 1845 to the turn of the century, the period covered by this book.

In 1845, Queen Victoria had been on the throne for eight years and Robert Peel was Prime Minister. He resigned that year having failed to repeal the Corn Laws which controlled the import of corn until the home-grown corn reached a certain price. This kept the price of flour high. John Russell, the Liberal Leader, refused to form a government and Peel was recalled and repealed the Corn Laws in 1846.

Also in 1845, the first cable was laid across the English Channel. In 1846, the sewing machine was invented. Chopin, Liszt and Wagner were still composing, and Edward Lear, the artist, wrote his book of nonsense verse and limericks. In 1849 Dr. David Livingstone, a member of the Glasgow Faculty, began his exploration of Africa.

Anaesthetics

The Professor of Midwifery at Edinburgh University, James T. Simpson, in 1847 discovered the anaesthetic power of chloroform and used it in midwifery (Comrie, 1932: 602-603; Hamilton, 1981: 221). This, with ether, introduced the previous year by W.T.G. Morton, a dentist in the U.S.A., gradually over the next few decades opened up increased possibilities in the employment of surgery. The first operation in this country under ether anaesthesia was said to have been performed by a Dr. Robert Liston in 1846 at University College Hospital in London.

In the 1840s and 1850s amputations of limbs, suturing of wounds, setting of fractures, manipulating dislocations, incising abscesses, and removing stones from the bladder were about the only types of surgery available. In spite of the discovery of anaesthetics, little increase in surgery took place until Lister introduced antiseptics, and then later still when asepsis was practised. In other words, the great increase in surgery occurred towards the end of the nineteenth century and beyond. In Glasgow Royal Infirmary there were 2,014 surgical operations performed between 1851 and 1860, but between 1901 and 1910 in the

same infirmary there were 36,729. The post-operative mortality in the first decade was 10.8%, but in the second had fallen to 5.1% (Hamilton, 1981: 223-224).

Up until 1875 the Royal Infirmary was still admitting fever cases as well as medical and surgical cases. The figures for admission every tenth year from 1835 to 1875 were as follows:-

	Total treated	Fever cases
1835	3,260	1,359
1845	2,993	535
1855	3,416	866
1865	6,690	2,559
1875	5,220	108

Antiseptics and Asepsis

Joseph Lister became Regius Professor of Surgery at Glasgow University in 1860, and a year later was given his own beds in the Royal Infirmary. He became a member of the Western Medical Club in 1862, but did not remain a member for long because of his poor attendance. Between 1864 and 1866 his various amputations in the Royal Infirmary showed a death rate of 45%, despite attempting to keep the wounds clean by using silver wire sutures, draining the wounds, and frequent changes of dressings. This high death rate was mostly due to sepsis, and this was not surprising considering that infectious diseases were still being treated in the same hospital. In addition, his wards were rat infested, and were just above a pit containing the bodies of thousands of victims of the cholera epidemic of 1848.

Moreover, the surgical wards also contained many patients with septic wounds, erysipelas, gangrene or other infections which could so easily spread to nearby patients. In the 1870s surgeons still operated in morning coats; not until the 1880s were white gowns worn and washed; rubber gloves were first used in 1890.

Increase in Surgery

In order to prevent sepsis and putrefaction Lister tried various antiseptics and eventually decided on a solution of carbolic acid, which he first used successfully in 1865 on an eleven-year-old boy with a compound fracture of tibia (Comrie, 1932: 636-637). From this breakthrough by the use of antiseptics in surgery, and the gradual progression to asepsis, the number and variety of surgical operations increased considerably from the 1870s to the turn of the century (Gibson, 1983:

156-165). The undernoted figures, obtained from the *Annual Reports of Glasgow Royal Infirmary*, show the types of surgery then being performed, and the results.

1873

Various amputations of fingers, legs and hands: 192 cases, 23 died.

Excision of breast: 11 cases, 11 cured or relieved.

Elevation of cranial bones following depressed fracture of skull: 1 case, 1 died.

Herniotomy: 4 Femoral and 12 inguinal, 10 died.

Lithotomy: 11 cases, 1 died.

1881

Various amputations: 91 cases, 16 died.

Excision of breast because of carcinoma: 6 cases, 2 died.

Herniotomy: 13 cases, 6 died.

Lithotomy: 4 cases, all recovered.

Osteotomy: 187 cases, all recovered.

1894

Appendicectomies: 3 cases, 3 cured.

Herniotomies: 78 cases, 15 died.

Obstruction of bowel: 12 cases, 8 died.

This is the first mention of appendicectomy being performed.

1895

Appendicectomy: 10 cases, 3 died.

Haemorrhoidectomy: 48 cases, all cured.

Herniotomy: 94 cases, 11 died.

Obstruction of bowel: 12 cases, 9 died.

1900

Appendicectomy: 40 cases, 3 died.

Obstruction of bowel: 31 cases, 13 died.

Perforation of stomach: 11 cases, 6 died.

Cancer of uterus: 30 cases, 4 died.

Cancer of lip: 11 cases, 1 died.

Cancer of breast: 7 cases, 1 died.

Mr. William Macewen (later Sir William) was appointed a visiting surgeon to the Royal Infirmary in 1877, and performed many osteotomies. In 1892 he moved to the Western Infirmary as Regius Professor of Surgery, succeeding Professor Sir George Macleod. Macewen was never a member of the Western Medical Club, probably because he was not considered to be gregarious and clubbable. He achieved international fame as a surgeon known for many innovations, but perhaps best known for osteotomies for rickets, mastoidectomies, and remarkable successes in brain surgery (Comrie, 1932: 641-642; Duguid, 1957; Gibson, 1983: 176-181).

Glasgow and Edinburgh

On a lighter note, even in the middle of the last century there seemed to be considerable animosity between the Glasgow and Edinburgh medical schools. A criticism appeared in the *Glasgow Medical Journal* at that time of the third edition of Professor James Syme's *On Diseases of the Rectum*. It was remarkably scurrilous; clearly there was then little concern about libel or defamation.

"*Vini, Vidi, Vici* ought to be the motto of the author of this work. There are certain animals of the feathered tribe whose plumage we admire, whose gait we stare at but whose vocal organs are repulsive. So it is with this production of our author. The volume is well got up, nicely bound and in every respect creditable to the Edinburgh Press but the unsparing abuse which the author heaps on all who may chance to differ from him either in theory or practice presents to the mind of the philanthropist a specimen of inordinate self-esteem. The work itself consists of about 120 pages of wide printed letterpress which could be easily compressed into three sheets of this journal" (Anon., 1854).

Public Health

By the turn of the century, surgery was offering cures for some conditions previously untreatable, but public health was the main source of reduction in morbidity and mortality. A new Poor Law (Scotland) Act was passed in 1845, mainly due to the criticisms of the old law by an Edinburgh physician, William Allison (1790-1859) (see Hamilton, 1981: 197). The English Amendment Poor Law Act had been passed in 1834 and a similar act in Ireland in 1838. Progress towards the same aim in Scotland was apparently slowed down by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, speaking in 1839 in favour of charitable support as an alternative means of care of the poor, but eventually in 1844 a Royal Commission was appointed and, as a result, Dr. Allison's ideas were incorporated in the new Act.

In Glasgow Dr. Andrew Buchanan and Dr. Robert Perry, original members of the Western Medical Club, had been fervently advocating such changes for many years. Dr. Andrew Buchanan (Plate 8), Professor of Materia Medica in Anderson's College, described conditions in Glasgow in 1830 as "Many of the poor in this city die of starvation.....I have described the minds of these poor people as in a state of torpor. That torpor ought perhaps to be accounted a blessing, as it prevents them from speculating on the cause of their own misery" (Hamilton, 1981: 199).

Dr. Robert Perry (Plate 18), President of the Glasgow Faculty, and Chairman at the first dinner of the Club in the city of Glasgow in 1846, wondered why there had been no revolution, when "A fourth part of the earnings of the industrious poor is taken from them to keep up the landlords' rents, the wealth of the Sugar Lords, and an expensive army of civil servants and military officers to keep them in order" (Hamilton, 1981: 199). He called for compulsory taxation and adequate spending on health care for the poor. He was also probably the first physician to differentiate typhus from typhoid fever (Gibson, 1983: 122-131).

Poor Law Measures

There were many in the profession, and others, who felt that changes were needed. Eventually, the Act of 1845 placed the task of helping the poor in the hands of a lay Parochial Board, later to be called the Parish Council, which could raise funds to help the poor (Hamilton, 1981: 199-200). From this, the Poor Law Medical Services grew.

At the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th, the standard of education in Scotland and the intellectual life for some people was improving, a period sometimes called the "period of enlightenment". However, with the Industrial Revolution occurring in the cities, accompanied by unfettered free enterprise (one of whose greatest exponents was the Scottish philosopher Adam Smith), the poverty, overcrowding, and insanitary conditions were worsening. As a result of this, the crude death rate in the 1820s in Glasgow was 22 per thousand, but by 1847 it had risen to 56 per thousand (Hamilton, 1981: 207). Eventually, improvement in the health of the nation took place, firstly due to the introduction over the next two or three decades of various Acts concerning the control of infectious diseases; secondly by better water supplies and sanitation; thirdly by increasing the number of doctors, with improvements in their training, and finally by increasing the numbers of hospital beds specifically to treat infectious diseases and to isolate them from the general public. By the 1870s these measures had

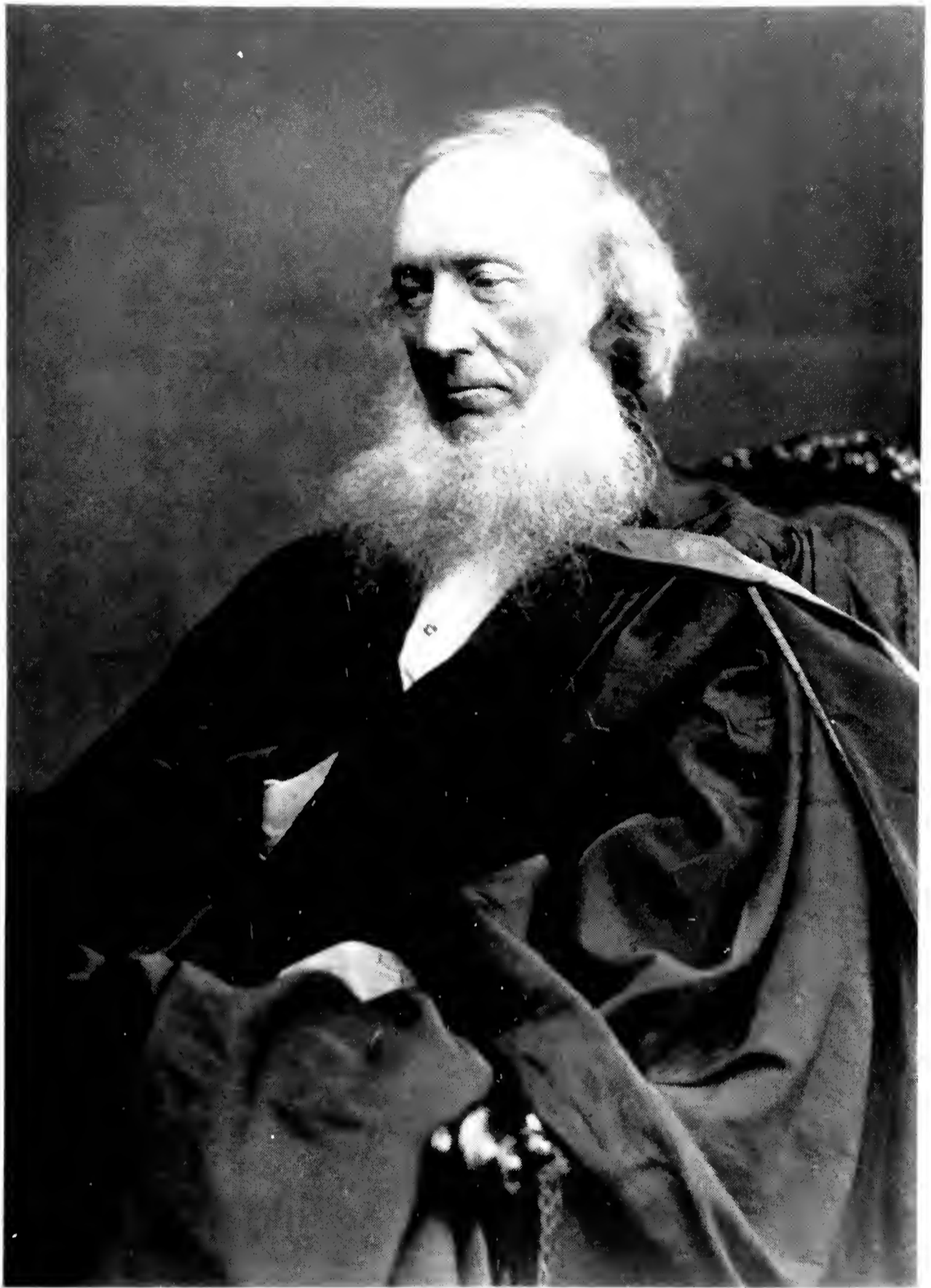


Plate 8

Andrew Buchanan

brought the death rate back down to that of the 1820s, and it continued to fall thereafter.

Infectious Disease Control

The prevalence of infectious diseases at the middle of the 19th century and later was still horrendous. In 1855 in Glasgow (Comrie, 1932: 790) one in three deaths was due to infectious disease; it was not until 1925 that this had fallen to one in six. Between 1818 and 1854, Glasgow had five epidemics of typhus and three of cholera. During the 1850s up to 5,000 cases of typhus were treated in Glasgow hospitals each year. A cholera hospital in Parliamentary Road was closed in November 1855; in the previous thirteen months it had admitted 853 patients, of whom 306 died (Anon., 1855).

Some examples of deaths due to other infectious diseases were listed in the *Glasgow Medical Journal* for 1854:

	1852	1853
Measles	241	1,040
Smallpox	584	296
Whooping Cough	639	637
Scarlatina	481	839

Medical Act

Two other Acts were passed in 1858 (Comrie, 1932: 788-789). The first was the Medical Act, which increased the number of doctors in training and laid down that they could not practise unless registered after obtaining a recognised degree. Before 1858, doctors who intended to practise in or near Glasgow or Edinburgh, studied for three years and then sat an examination at one of the Universities which, if they passed, awarded the degree of M.D., or if they sat the examination of the Glasgow Faculty they became a Licentiate of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. At the same time, medical students who intended to practise outwith these areas attached themselves to a physician or surgeon, and completed an apprenticeship. The General Council of Medical Education and Registration, set up by the Medical Act of 1858, could remove doctors from the Register for infamous conduct, and doctors who were on the Register could legally practise anywhere in Her Majesty's domain.

Universities (Scotland) Act

The other Act passed in 1858 was the Universities (Scotland) Act, which laid down new standards for the teaching of medicine, and by 1865 these new standards were in place. Thereafter, degrees of Bachelor of Medicine (M.B.) and Master of Surgery (C.M.) were to be conferred after successful examination at the end of four years of professional studies, and the M.D. degree became a higher qualification (Comrie, 1932: 789). Eventually, in 1889 a further Universities (Scotland) Act increased the medical course to five years, and from 1893 M.B., Ch.B. became the standard University medical degrees, with the degrees of M.D. and Ch.M. now becoming higher qualifications.

Public Health Acts.

Many other acts affecting public health and the practise of medicine in the city were enacted from the 1830s onwards (Comrie, 1932: 789-791): the Cholera Acts (1832), Nuisance Removal (Scotland) Act 1846, legislation in 1854 for the notification of deaths, the Lunacy (Scotland) Act 1857, the Scottish Vaccination Act (1864) (though public vaccination at the Faculty had been available for many years), the Cattle Sheds in Burghs (Scotland) Act 1866, and the Scottish Public Health Act of 1867.

Medical Officers of Health

About this time, Medical Officers of Health were being appointed, and the first to be appointed, part time, in Glasgow was the University Professor of Medicine, William T. Gairdner, in 1863 (Hamilton, 1981: 204). He had five assistants who were the district police surgeons, one of whom was Dr. Andrew Fergus, a general practitioner who was President of the Faculty in 1874-1877 and again in 1883-1886. Professor Gairdner became a member of the Western Medical Club in 1864, and Dr. Fergus in 1869. Professor Gairdner retired from the M.O.H. post in 1872, and was succeeded, full time, by another member of the Club, Dr. J.B. Russell, who remained M.O.H. of Glasgow until 1898. Dr. Russell joined the Club in 1878.

In the 1860s the M.O.H., with the help of the police, was able to 'ticket' houses, i.e. to put a notice on the house giving the highest number allowed to live there (King, 1991: 62, 204). In 1870 there were 47,163 raids on houses to apply 'ticketing', a good indication of the dreadful overcrowding in the poorer districts of Glasgow.

Research in Infectious Diseases

Even in the 1860s the cause of most infectious diseases was still unknown. At a debate in the Glasgow Medico-Chirurgical Society in October 1868, Dr. Andrew Fergus gave a paper on getting rid of faecal matter, both human and equine, from houses, and avoiding pollution of the rivers Clyde and Kelvin. Drs Adam, Morton, Lyon, Gairdner and A.D. Anderson, all members of the Western Medical Club, took part in the debate. Dr. Fergus believed that infectious diseases were spread by noxious gases arising from sewers and rivers. Dr. A.D. Anderson and Professor Gairdner did not agree.

In spite of all the 19th century research by such people as Pasteur, Klebs, Koch and Lister, even in 1880 it was still a matter for frequent debate amongst the profession in Glasgow as to whether infectious diseases were caused by germs, or a "physio chemical change" in the human body, or by noxious gases.

Dr. Joseph Coats, (joined the Club in 1876) a grand-nephew of the founder of J. & P. Coats, the cotton spinners in Paisley, graduated with honours from Glasgow University in 1867, and was in turn resident house-surgeon with Professor Gairdner and Professor Lister (Comrie, 1932: 657). From 1869 he was the pathologist at the Royal Infirmary and then the Western Infirmary, and became the first Professor of Pathology at Glasgow University in 1894. In 1881 he attended the International Medical Congress in London, with 3,000 medically qualified men present (Plate 9). Virchow and Pasteur spoke, and Coats was very impressed with the demonstrations given by magic lantern and microphotographs showing the relationship between certain germs and certain diseases. There were still some doubters concerning the existence of germs, and a few years later a poem, which originated in the United States of America, was quoted in the *Glasgow Medical Journal*:

"Germs in the air,
Germs in the sea,
Germs wherever one may be,
Germs and to spare growing in me,
German germs from Germany.
Whate'er we say,
Or write or think,
Germs will wriggle in the ink.
On tongues they'll play,
and 'culture' drink,
From each minute cerebral chink".

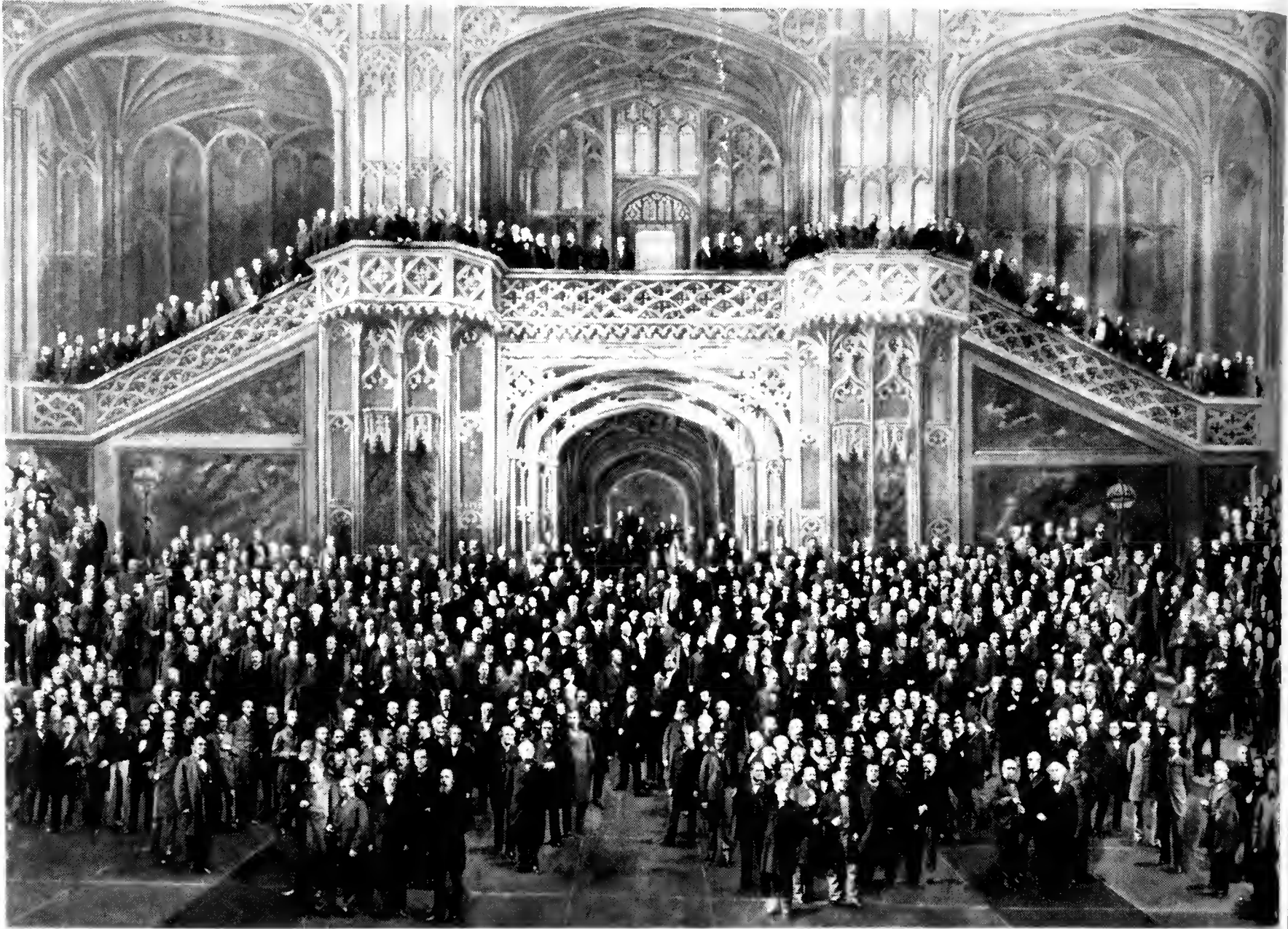


Plate 9

**International Medical Conference
The Mansion House, London, 3rd to 9th August 1881**
Composite photograph of 684 of the 3,000 doctors who attended.

In lectures in 1871 and 1875, Dr. Fergus was still supporting his noxious gases theory as the cause of infection, but in Aberdeen in 1875 and Glasgow in 1880, outbreaks of typhoid were traced back to milkmaids suffering from typhoid in the farms supplying milk to the affected areas (Comrie, 1932: 647). As a result of such findings, and the discoveries of bacteriological causes for infection by such people as Bilroth, Koch and Pasteur in the 1870s and 1880s, the theory of noxious gases as the cause of the spread of disease was gradually dismissed.

Water Supply

The quickly growing population of Glasgow in the first half of the 19th century required a much larger water supply, which up to 1800 was drawn from the Clyde or from thirty or forty wells in the town. About this time, a man called William Harley owned land in the valley between Garnethill and Blythswood Hill, now Sauchiehall Street. He gathered water into pipes from the springs and burns in that valley, and led these pipes down to a reservoir in West Nile Street. He then sold that water from water carts to the inhabitants. In 1806, with the famous Thomas Telford as engineer, a company was formed to take water from the Clyde at Dalmarnock, soon followed by another company which drew water from the Clyde below Glasgow, but both of these had to cease because of the river's pollution. In 1846 the Gorbals Gravitation Company was formed, drawing water from the Brock Burn near Barrhead. Eventually, in 1855, it was planned to bring water to Glasgow from Loch Katrine, 35 miles away, and in 1859 Queen Victoria opened the new supply. To begin with, only those with five shillings to spare, to buy a key to one of the city taps, had access to this water, and the others had to use the old wells (Robertson, 1972: 13). This new water supply probably played a large part in Glasgow avoiding the cholera epidemic of 1866.

Sewage

Although the cause of infectious diseases at this time was still unknown, the supply of pure water made a great difference to the public health of Glasgow, as did the gradual improvement in the disposal of human sewage. This was finally achieved from 1887 onwards, when sewage treatment centres were opened at Shieldhall and Dalmarnock; later, additional sewage treatment centres were opened at Partick on 30th May 1904 and Dalmuir on 31st May 1904.

Horse Manure

Another problem in those days was the disposal of horse manure. Andrew Buchanan, an Original Member of the Club, in turn Professor of Materia Medica in

Anderson's College and from 1839 Professor of the Institutes of Medicine at the University, which included physiology, therapeutics and hygiene, lived with his father in George Square and had a surgery at 6 South Hanover Street. In 1838 he married and went to live in West Nile Street, and in 1843 moved to Moore Place on the south side of West George Street, between Hope Street and Renfield Street. There he had as neighbours Professor Laurie of Surgery, Dr. Robert Perry and Dr. Rainey. As the reader will appreciate, like many of the other doctors he was gradually moving westwards as the town increased in size.

To return to the really serious problem of horse manure, in 1854 Professor Andrew Buchanan, lecturing to the Medico-Chirurgical Society, described the state of the stables at his house in Moore Place (Buchanan, 1853). Beside or below each stable, adjacent to each house, was a large pit 10 to 18 feet long, 10 to 12 feet broad and 6 to 10 feet deep, filled with horse manure, urine, ashes, household litter etc. Sometimes these pits would remain uncleared for up to six months or more. He described having seen one of these pits being cleared by labourers with horse and cart, but still leaving eighteen inches of liquid manure in the foot of the pit, which, by bucket, was thrown into the nearby lane and drained down the hill into the nearest drain in St. Vincent Street. No wonder Dr. Fergus and others thought infectious diseases were spread by noxious gases!

It was agreed at the end of Professor Buchanan's lecture that the Police Commissioners (Town Councillors) be requested to have these pits cleared every morning and evening. The enormity of the problem is illustrated by the fact that in 1859 there were 200,000 horses in Scotland. In the Glasgow Post Office Directory for 1864-1865 there were 37 saddlers and 10 horse dealers, including the Royal Victoria Horse Bazaar, in Cambridge Street and, the West End Horse Bazaar in North Street.

Increase in the Number of Hospital Beds

Another factor which helped to decrease the death rate in Glasgow was the increase in the number of hospital beds (Comrie, 1932: 457-460; Hamilton, 1981: 213-214, 231). The Royal Infirmary had been opened in 1794, and was increased in size on several occasions during the nineteenth century. Other voluntary hospitals which were opened before 1900 were: the Western Infirmary 1875, Royal Hospital for Sick Children 1883 (in Scott Street), and the Victoria Infirmary 1890 (opened mainly due to pressure from the Southern Medical Society, founded in 1844). Poor Law hospitals were also opened during the 19th century, and eventually became the Southern General and Stobhill Hospitals. A lying-in hospital was opened on the second floor and garrets of the old Grammar School in 1834.

Later there was a lying-in hospital in the grounds of the College in High Street. In 1860 a larger maternity hospital was built in Rottenrow, and subsequently two enlarged hospitals were built at the same site. The Eye Infirmary was first opened in North Albion Street in 1824, and moved to Berkeley Street in 1874.

To state this in a more general way, in 1851 there was one general hospital in Glasgow - the Royal Infirmary, with 200 beds for medical and surgical cases and 120 beds for fever patients. By 1883 there were two general hospitals (Royal and Western) with 900 beds for medical and surgical cases, and other specialist hospitals, for maternity, mental, eyes, fevers, and children's disease cases.

More Doctors Required

From the health point of view, this following table is of considerable interest.

Year	Population of Glasgow	Number of Practising Doctors
1851	255,000	231
1861	329,000	226
1871	477,000	231
1881	511,000	294

This shows that in the thirty years covered by these figures the population of Glasgow had almost doubled, whereas the number of practising doctors in the city had only risen by slightly more than a quarter.

To return to the wider world, the outbreak of the Crimean War took place in 1853. In the same year vaccination against smallpox was made compulsory, Dr. Alexander Wood invented the hypodermic syringe, and Queen Victoria allowed Dr. John Snow to administer chloroform to her during the birth of Prince Leopold.

Crimean War

At least three existing members of the Western Medical Club took an active part in the Crimean War: John B. Cowan, George Buchanan, and George H.B. Macleod (Addison, 1898; Shepherd, 1991). Dr. Donald Dewar (see later) also served in the Crimean War, but did not join the Club until 1864.

Dr. John B. Cowan (a member of the Club from 1853 for more than forty years) graduated M.D. from Glasgow in 1851, and after his war service returned to Glasgow in 1856, where in turn he was Professor in Anderson's College in Medical

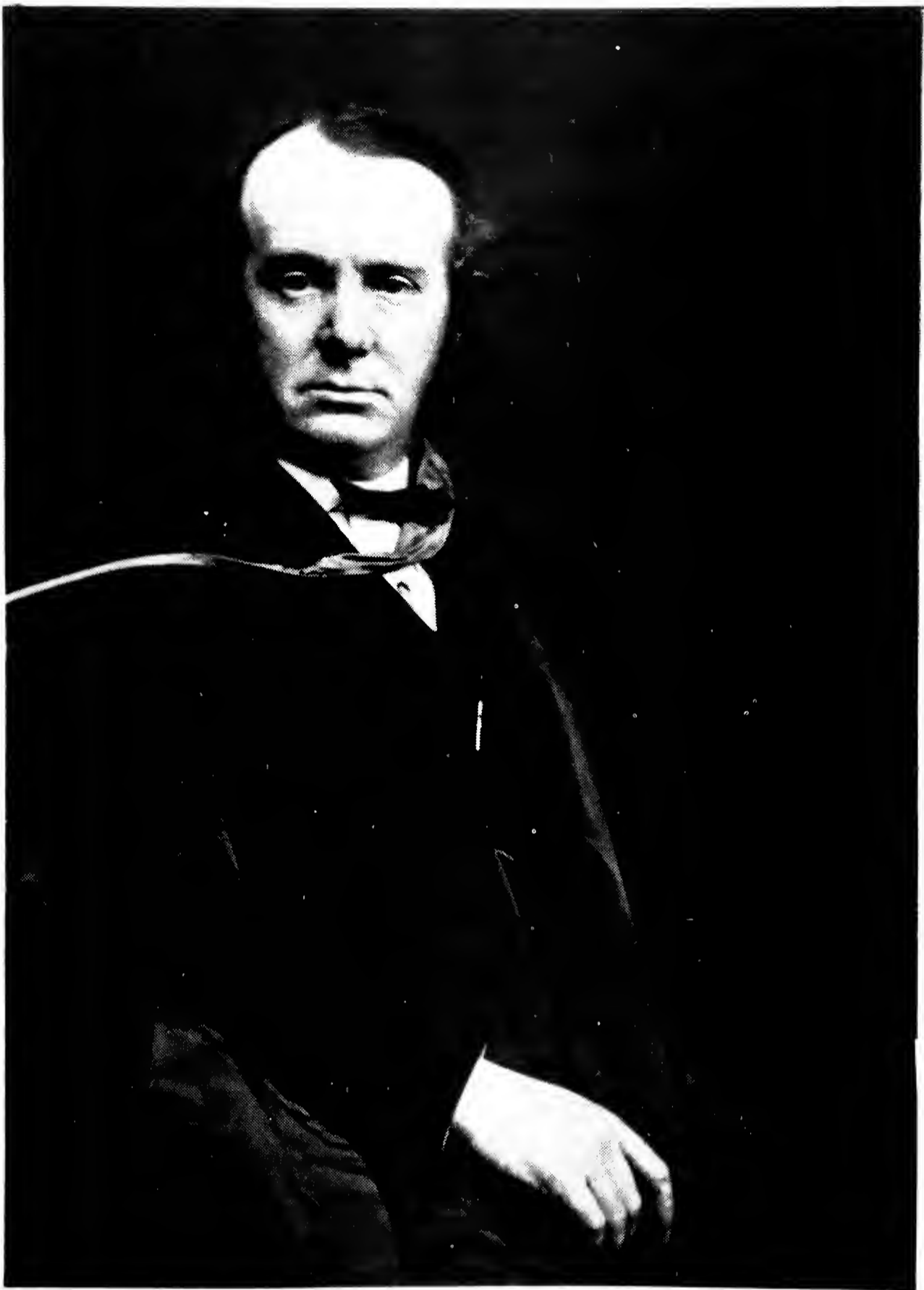


Plate 10

John Black Cowan

Jurisprudence and then Medicine from 1863 (Plate 10). In 1865 he was appointed Regius Professor of Materia Medica at Glasgow University. He followed Professor Easton in the chair, and retired in 1880.

George Buchanan (1827-1906) was the son of Moses Buchanan, Professor of Anatomy at Anderson's College, where George studied but took his M.D. at St. Andrews. He served as a civil surgeon in the Crimean War (see Note 6), and some time after his return to Glasgow he published an influential book about his experiences (Buchanan, 1871). He was appointed a surgeon in the Royal Infirmary in 1860 and also Professor of Anatomy at Anderson's College. He transferred to the Western Infirmary when it was opened in 1874, and there became Professor of Clinical Surgery, retiring in 1900.

The third existing member of the Club who served in the Crimea was George Husband Baird Macleod (Plate 11), who qualified M.D. at Glasgow in 1853 and yet within a few years was Staff-Surgeon and Deputy Superintendent at the civil hospital in Smyrna, where Florence Nightingale worked (see Note 7). He spent some time as a surgeon in the front lines at the siege of Sebastopol (Plate 12), where he performed a great deal of field surgery on the wounded. Returning to Glasgow to practise as a surgeon, he published a text-book *Notes on the Surgery of the War in the Crimea* (1858) which was widely regarded as one of the most intelligent surgical reviews of the period (Shepherd, 1991). He became Professor of Surgery in Anderson's College in 1859, and in 1869 succeeded Lister as Regius Professor of Surgery at the University. He died in 1892 and was succeeded in the chair by William Macewen.

Mention should also be made of Dr. Donald Dewar, for although he did not actually join the Club until 1864, he also served as a civil surgeon with the British expeditionary force in the Crimea (Addison, 1898), only returning in 1857. Dewar was a man with some intellectual interests outwith medicine. He gained a reputation as an ornithologist of local distinction, whose most notable achievement was to shoot a specimen of the Ruby-crowned Kinglet *Regulus calendula* in Kenmore Wood on Loch Lomondside in summer 1852 (Anon, 1876, 1878; Mitchell, 1983). Robert Gray (1871), of *Birds of the West of Scotland* fame, accepted this as probably the first authentic British record of this tiny North American bird. Unfortunately Dewar died in 1876, in only his mid-forties.

Anderson's College

The three doctors who served as surgeons in the Crimean War while they were all members of the Club appear in the photograph (Plate 13) of the medical staff of

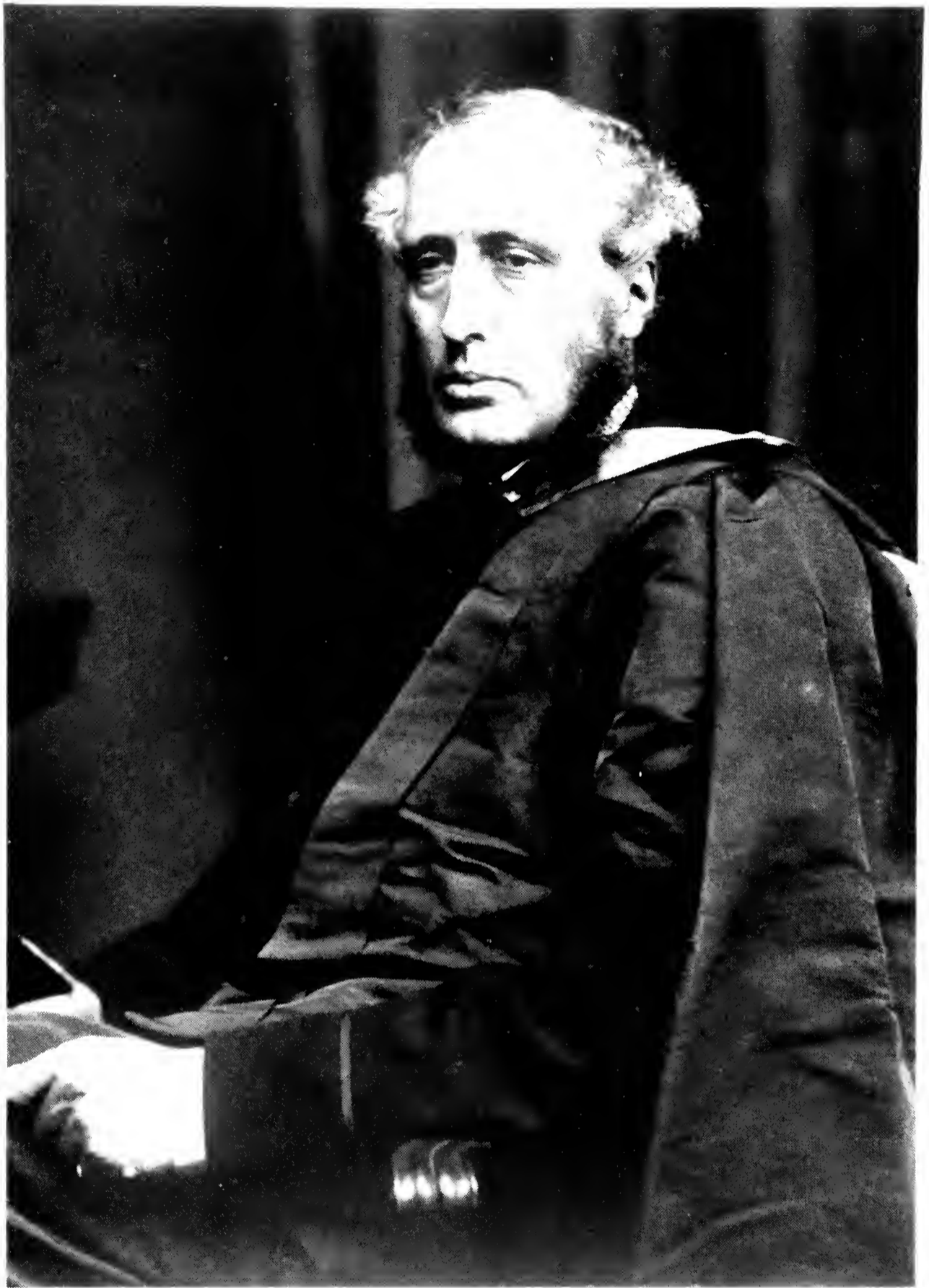


Plate 11

George H.B. Macleod



Plate 12

Siege of Sebastopol

Contemporary Crimean War painting, 1854-55.

Anderson's College about 1863 (Note 8). These three, Cowan, Buchanan, and Macleod, Professors at this time in Anderson's College (Plate 13), all subsequently became University Professors. It was a quite frequent occurrence for staff to move from Anderson's to the University.

Standing in the group from left to right are: William Leishman, Professor of Medical Jurisprudence at Anderson's from 1863 to 1868 and then Professor of Midwifery at the University until succeeded in 1894 by Murdoch Cameron. Standing next to him is Professor George H.B. Macleod, mentioned above as serving in the Crimea, who joined the Club in 1859. On his left is Professor James G. Wilson, Professor of Midwifery at Anderson's from 1863 to 1881, who also joined the Club in 1859.

The small gentleman standing at the end of the row is George Buchanan, mentioned above as serving as a surgeon in the Crimea. Here he is Professor of Anatomy at Anderson's from 1869 to 1874 and a surgeon in the Royal Infirmary. In 1874 he transferred to the Western Infirmary and from then until his retirement in 1900, when he was succeeded by Hector Clare Cameron, he was Professor of Clinical Surgery at the University.

In the front row of the photograph is James Paterson, Professor of Midwifery from 1841 to 1863. The next three sitting beyond him are Drs Anderson, Morton and Anderson. The note attached to this photograph says one of the Andersons in the photograph is Alexander Dunlop Anderson, but in fact I cannot find any note of Alexander ever being on the staff of either Anderson's or the University, although he was President of the Faculty from 1852 to 1855 and was an Original Member of the Western Medical Club (Anon., 1870). It would therefore seem that the first Anderson, second from the left in the front row, is Andrew Anderson, a nephew of A. Dunlop Anderson and Professor of Physiology at Anderson's College from 1840 to 1846 and then of Medicine there from 1846 to 1863.

The second Professor Anderson, fourth from left, would seem to be Thomas McCall Anderson, son of Alexander and cousin of Andrew. He joined the Club in 1866, and was Treasurer from 1870 to 1880 and Secretary from 1880 to 1892.

Between the two Andersons is James Morton, Professor of Materia Medica from 1855 to 1888 at Anderson's, who joined the Club in 1864. The small man with the large beard beyond the second Professor Anderson is Frederick Penny, Professor of Chemistry from 1839 to 1870. At the end of the front row is Professor John B. Cowan, mentioned above as serving as a surgeon in the Crimean War. This photograph shows the very varied styles of clothing worn by the



Plate 13

Medical Staff of Anderson's College

Ten professors, only two of whom were not members of the Western Medical Club. Photograph, c. 1863. For details, see text.

doctors. In this photograph, Professor James Paterson and Professor Frederick Penny are the only doctors who were not actually members of the Western Medical Club.

End of the Old College in High Street

An event which affected all the members of the Club was the shutting down and demolition of the Old College in the High Street, and the removal of the University to Gilmorehill in the west end of Glasgow, on the north side of the valley of the River Kelvin.

Due to the increase of the surrounding slums and industry, it became obvious in the 1830s and 1840s that the University would soon have to move elsewhere. In 1864 the University accepted an offer from the City of Glasgow Union Railway Company to purchase the Old College and grounds; entry for the railway being postponed until the new buildings were erected at Gilmorehill. For a few years after demolition began in the High Street, the gateway of the Old College had a temporary notice on it - "Entrance to Passenger Station" (see Plate 16) (University of Glasgow, 1951: 33).

Gilmorehill

In 1866 the first sod was cut at Gilmorehill (University of Glasgow, 1951: 35) by Allen Thomson, Professor of Anatomy, who was convener of the University Removal Committee. In 1876 the Western Medical Club made him an Honorary Member, apparently the first and only Honorary Member of the Club who had not previously been an ordinary member. After the new buildings at Gilmorehill had progressed the Prince and Princess of Wales (later Edward VII and Queen Alexandra) jointly laid the foundation stone in 1868. The University at Gilmorehill was supposed to be completed for use by July 1870, but this was far from the case; plans were altered, and temporary arrangements had to be made to allow classes in the 1870-71 session to be started at the new site.

Farewell Dinner for Old College

The Senate met for the last time in the Old College on 29th July 1870, and after a farewell dinner all the members drank to the memory of the Old College from an ancient loving cup: then they joined hands and sang *Auld Lang Syne*. A composite photograph was created of the members of the Senate on the Lion and Unicorn staircase after the dinner (Plates 14 and 15). This photograph (University of

Glasgow, 1951: 34) shows that eight members of the Western Medical Club were members of the Senate at that time. The dates in brackets after the names show the year in which each joined the Club. They were Professors: Andrew Buchanan, Physiology (1845), John B. Cowan, *Materia Medica* (1854), William Leishman, Midwifery (1859), William T. Gairdner, Medicine (1864), John Young, Natural History (1860), Alexander Dickson, Botany (1874) and Allen Thomson, Anatomy (Honorary Member 1876).

After this farewell dinner a member of the Senate remarked that in the absence of Principal Barclay (though he appears in the photograph, at the bottom of the staircase, with the long flowing beard), the Chairman was Professor Caird of Divinity (clean-shaven at the bottom of the staircase in Napoleonic stance), who when proposing the toast to the memory of the Old College was eloquent but cold, "We could have wished that the office of Chief Mourner had been allotted to one who possessed more of the warm heart and tender reverence of the Principal and less of the glacial intellect of the Professor of Divinity" (Anon, 1870).

The Lion and Unicorn staircase was rebuilt in the Professors' Quadrangle at Gilmorehill, and in 1888 the entrance to the Old College in the High Street was rebuilt at Gilmorehill at the city end of University Avenue. It was named Pearce Lodge (Plate 16), after the shipbuilder who financed its removal and rebuilding (University of Glasgow, 1951: 43).

Mental Illness

So far as mental illness was concerned, little change took place in its theory or treatment during the second half of the nineteenth century, although several special hospitals for its treatment had been opened in the West of Scotland during that period. In fact between 1860 and 1910 nineteen specialist mental hospitals were opened in Scotland, financed and run by the State but administered by the parish councils in whose area they were situated (Hamilton, 1981: 218). Even so, in the 1880s medical students got little instruction in insanity.

Dr. David Yellowlees, Medical Superintendent of the Royal Asylum, Gartnavel, Glasgow (who joined the Club in 1880) in his Presidential address to the Annual General Meeting of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Branch of the B.M.A. in 1881, said "Here is a malady not only worse than bodily suffering but often worse than death, yet neglected or ignored until recent times" (Yellowlees, 1881).

During his address he divided the causes of insanity into three groups:-

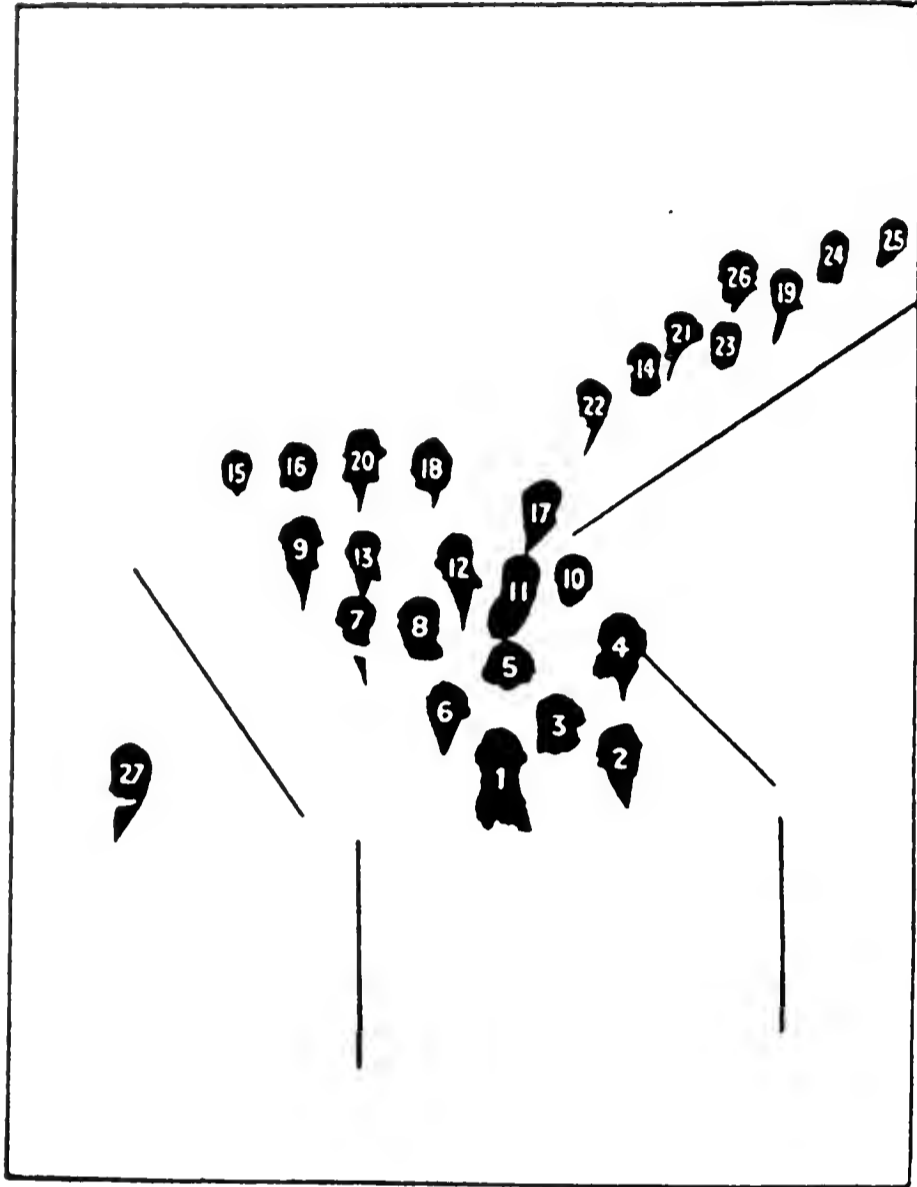


Plate 14

Members of the Club in the Senate

Key to identities of Club members in
photograph on opposite page:

- 4. Andrew Buchanan
- 7. Allen Thomson
- 15. William Tennant Gairdner
- 19. John B. Cowan
- 21. John Young
- 24. William Leishman
- 25. Alexander Dickson
- 26. George H.B. Macleod

For additional details, see text.

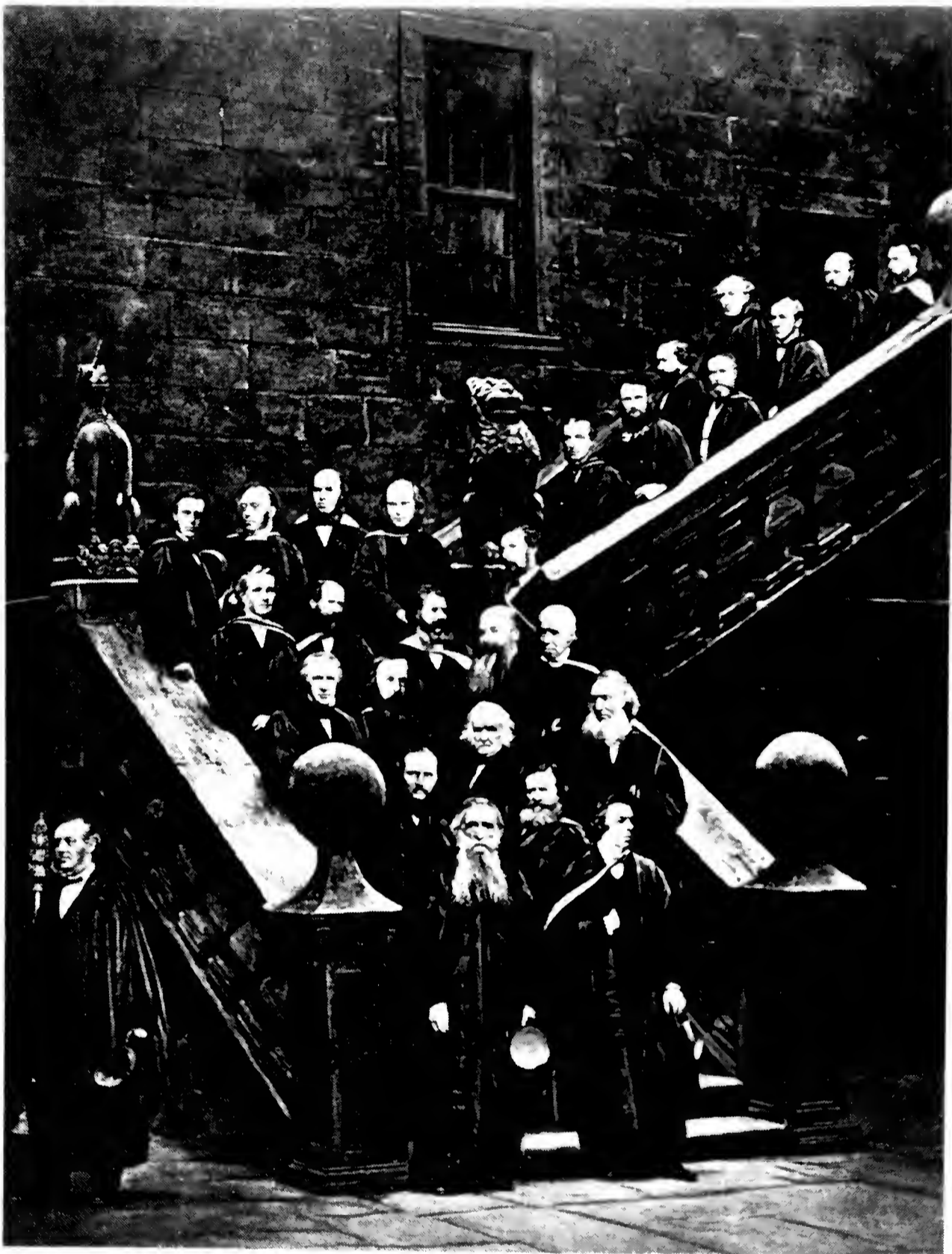


Plate 15

Senate leaving the Old College

Composite photograph of members of the Senate leaving the Old College,
at the Lion and Unicorn staircase, on 29th July 1870.

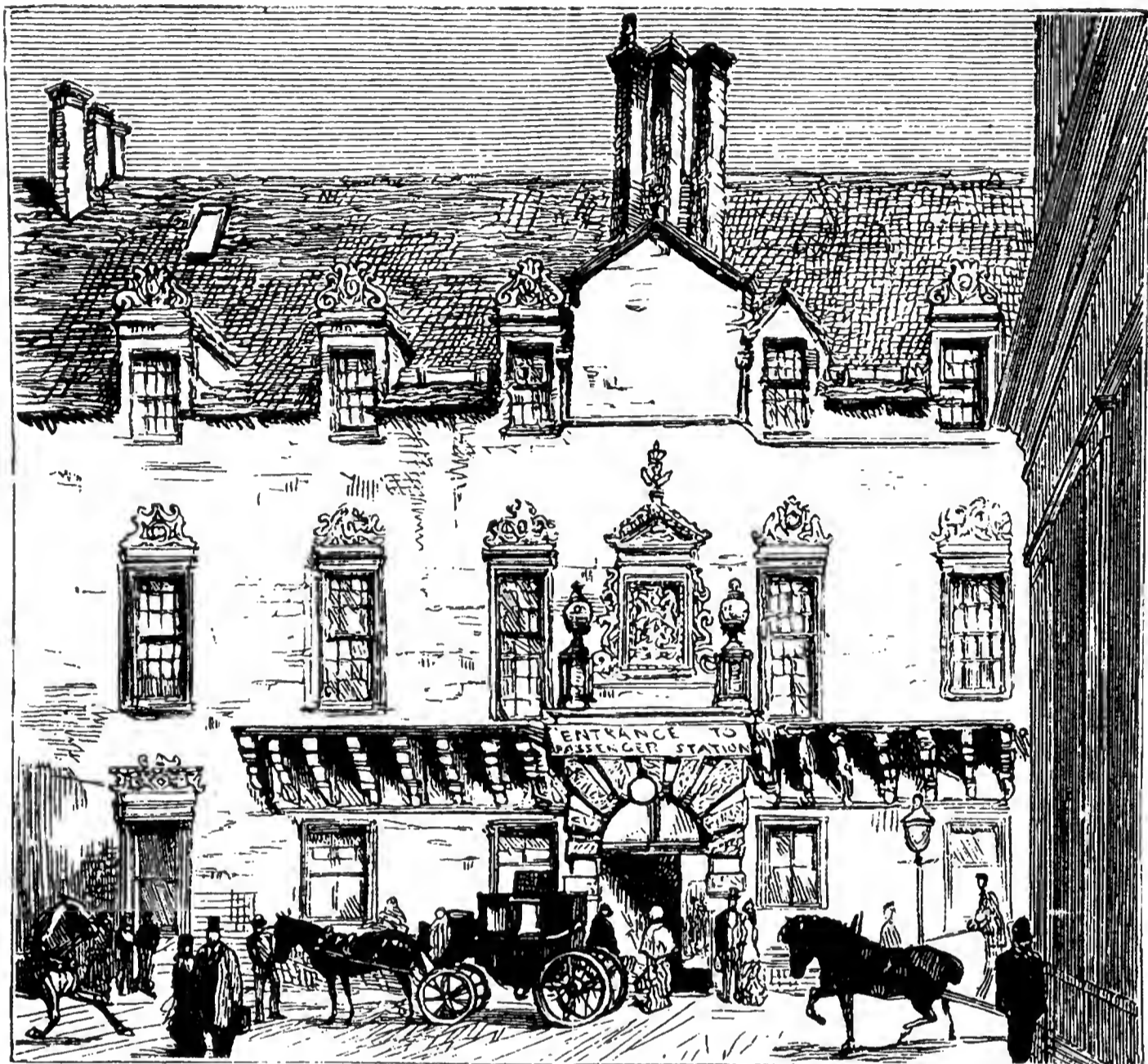


Plate 16

Sculptured Front of Old College

Rebuilt at Gilmorehill as Pearce Lodge.

- (1) Primary brain disturbances.
- (2) Secondary brain disturbance connected with natural changes, for example: puberty, childbirth, climacteric period and old age.
- (3) Secondary brain disturbance connected with morbid conditions.
 - (a) General: anaemia, debility, fever, syphilis, gout and rheumatism.
 - (b) Local: consumption, heart disease, digestive and biliary disorders, constipation, ovarian and intestinal disorders, and masturbation.
 - (c) Toxic : abuse of alcohol or drugs.

Separate Hospital for Children

Another type of specialist hospital which began in the second half of the nineteenth century was a separate hospital restricted to the treatment of children. In 1861, when this idea was first suggested, more than fifty per cent of the annual deaths in Glasgow were of children under the age of five (Robertson, 1972). Amongst the conveners of an inaugural meeting to discuss the matter that year were two members of the Western Medical Club, Dr. George H.B. Macleod (Plate 11) and Dr. J.B. Cowan (Plate 10), both having served in the Crimean War and both still in their thirties.

Macleod was a very tall handsome man who was always immaculately dressed (well perhaps not always - see end of Note 7), and was later nicknamed 'The Duke'. He is in the centre of the back row in the staff photograph of Anderson's College. If he passed a student whom he knew he always doffed his hat, and often commented "I long ago made up my mind that if I could teach the students nothing else I could teach them manners". Before supporting the concept of separate childrens' hospitals he had advocated the building of sanatoria on the Clyde coast for the poor and their children, for he said statistics proved there was more disease in the city than in the country or at the seaside. Dr. Cowan, speaking at the inaugural meeting said that many children of the poor never received medical attention until it was too late. Specialised knowledge of diseases of children hardly existed, and much of their serious disease was thought to be teething troubles - one hundred and thirty years later this mis-diagnosis can still occasionally exist.

A large proportion of the medical establishment was still against this new idea; e.g. the board of the Royal Infirmary and the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Glasgow. Two of the founder members of the Club, Dr. J.G. Fleming and Dr. A.D. Anderson, who were also on the staff of the Royal Infirmary, wrote to the *Glasgow Herald* disagreeing with these bodies, and saying that they supported the idea of separate childrens' hospitals. No further planning or fund-raising took place

until 1865, when a Glasgow lawyer, Andrew McGeorge, started discussions again and raised more funds, but these discussions also ceased in 1867.

Western Infirmary

When the University moved to Gilmorehill in the early 1870s, it was planned to build a new infirmary, the Western, beside it, and the possibility of a children's hospital being built nearby was also raised. This resulted in a lot of disagreement between the University Senate, the planning body of the Western Infirmary, and the protagonists for a children's hospital, so again the idea fell by the wayside.

Hospital for Sick Children

Eventually in December 1882 a children's hospital was opened in Garnethill in two houses at the corner of Scott Street and Buccleuch Street. The first consultants appointed to the new hospital were William Macewen and Hector Cameron as surgeons, and James Finlayson and William Leishman as physicians. With the exception of Macewen, all were members of the Western Medical Club. Eventually this hospital proved to be inadequate, and the new Hospital for Sick Children was opened at Yorkhill in 1914 (Robertson, 1972).

Medical Treatment

It is very difficult to summarise the practice of medicine (as opposed to surgery) in the latter half of the nineteenth century. Articles in the *Glasgow Medical Journal* written by members of the Club during that period show the remarkable diversity of the cures attempted and the poor results obtained. Some examples follow.

Cholera

In the 1894 *Glasgow Medical Journal*, Professor George Buchanan (who joined the Club in 1853) reminisced about the great cholera epidemics in 1849, when two out of every three patients died within twenty-four hours of developing symptoms (Easton, 1854; Anon., 1855), and many others in the next few days "They were treated variously with stimulants, the calomel, the opium, the castor oil or the saline [see Note 9]. They all made little difference to the outcome" (Buchanan, 1894). In fact it was only the supply of pure uncontaminated water to the citizens which finally removed cholera from the city.

Rheumatism

Rheumatism was a common disease in the last century but had not been differentiated into different types, and in October 1866 Dr. William Leishman, a physician at the Royal Infirmary, wrote an article in the *Glasgow Medical Journal* about treating acute rheumatism by blistering. He was a Secretary of the Club, and eventually became the University Professor of Obstetrics. Ten years later another member of the Club wrote in the same journal (Note 10) about the effective treatment of acute rheumatism with salicylates (Gemmell and Shearer, 1877). This was Dr. Samson Gemmell, who joined the Club in 1884 and later succeeded T. McCall Anderson as Regius Professor of Medicine in 1908.

A more bizarre treatment of acute rheumatism was suggested by a Dr. Robertson in a lecture to the Glasgow Eastern Medical Society in 1897. His patient had a temperature of 107°C; he received a cold bath, followed by cold spraying, large doses of quinine, and alcohol freely administered, but apparently recovered. Dr. Robertson also reported successfully treating with cold water douching three other patients: one suffered from alcoholic convulsions; the second had functional deaf and dumbness following convulsions, and had previously been treated unsuccessfully with psychic impression and intrapharyngeal electricity; the third had suffered from disease of the hip joint for twelve years.

Blood-letting

Until at least the late 1860s, blood-letting by venesection or the application of leeches was still a treatment widely used in many different conditions. In the *Glasgow Medical Journal* of 1862 blood-letting was suggested as a treatment for cerebral congestion threatening apoplexy; either by blood-letting from the nostrils or syringing each nostril with hot water and then inserting a leech in each (Borie, 1862). The article continued that if neither method was successful, venesection could be performed.

Another suggestion for the treatment of severe headaches was the application of leeches to the forehead, but with a warning that the leech might wander and bite the eye and cause blindness (Von Graefe, 1862). A well-known member of the Club, Professor George H.B. Macleod, also wrote an article on the comparative value of blood-letting and purging in the early stages of acute hydrocephalus.

Blood-letting gradually disappeared during the 1870s and 1880s. In fact the reverse was being suggested much earlier, for in the *Glasgow Medical Journal* of

1860 Dr. John Thomson reported the successful transfusion of twelve ounces of blood from a mother to a daughter (who was bleeding heavily during labour) by putting the blood into a cup, and then keeping the cup in a large basin of hot water to prevent coagulation before the blood was injected into the daughter's vein (Thomson, 1860).

Odds and Ends

Some other unusual statements in the pages of the *Glasgow Medical Journal* are worth mentioning. In 1869 the Royal Infirmary received a donation from Police Inspector Archibald Munro of one pound, being a bribe left by a shebeen keeper at the Inspector's home. In 1871 there is an advertisement for a recently published medical book on Phrenology, and in 1889 an extract is quoted from the *British Medical Journal*; "Sir William Jenner has advised the Queen to give up Champagne and Claret for the present and to drink whisky and Appolinaris water instead". Very suitable advice for a lady of seventy!!

CHAPTER 4

The Dinners, and the Club Secretaries

As it says in the minutes of the Inaugural Dinner, the main object of the Club's formation was to promote "friendly and social intercourse among members of the medical profession in Glasgow and the West of Scotland".

The Chairman of the Club had some part in achieving or not that main object, but under the constitution a Chairman only held office during one dinner, so the achievement of success depended almost entirely on the abilities and personalities of the Secretaries. I therefore propose to describe the dinners, their venues, and the entertainment provided, based on a separate section for each Secretary. Between 1845 and 1902 there were seven Secretaries, and their periods of tenure of office varied from two to fourteen years.

Each year from 1846 until 1856 there was a winter and a summer dinner, held respectively in the city of Glasgow and somewhere in the West of Scotland, except for 1849 when the winter dinner was cancelled due to a severe outbreak of cholera. From 1856 it was decided that there would only be one dinner each year, and this continued until after the summer dinner of 1864, when in the autumn of that year the Secretary, Dr. James Fraser, left Glasgow to live in Gatehouse-of-Fleet, without apparently notifying his departure to the Committee of Management.

Two years later, in July 1866, the Treasurer, Dr. John Coats, called a meeting of the Town Members in the Faculty Hall "to take into consideration the present state and future management of the Club". As a result, a dinner was held there on 25th July 1866. From then on, winter and summer dinners were again held each year until 1902, except for the cancellation of the January 1901 dinner because of the death of Queen Victoria.

John Gibson Fleming (Secretary 1845-1851)

Dr. John Gibson Fleming (1809-1879) was the first Secretary of the Club, and served as such for six years, from 1845 to 1851. He was educated at Glasgow University and graduated M.D. in 1830 (Plate 17). He also studied in Paris, and after qualification practised for a while at 52 West Nile Street, living at 121 West Regent Street.



Plate 17

John Gibson Fleming



Plate 18

Robert Perry

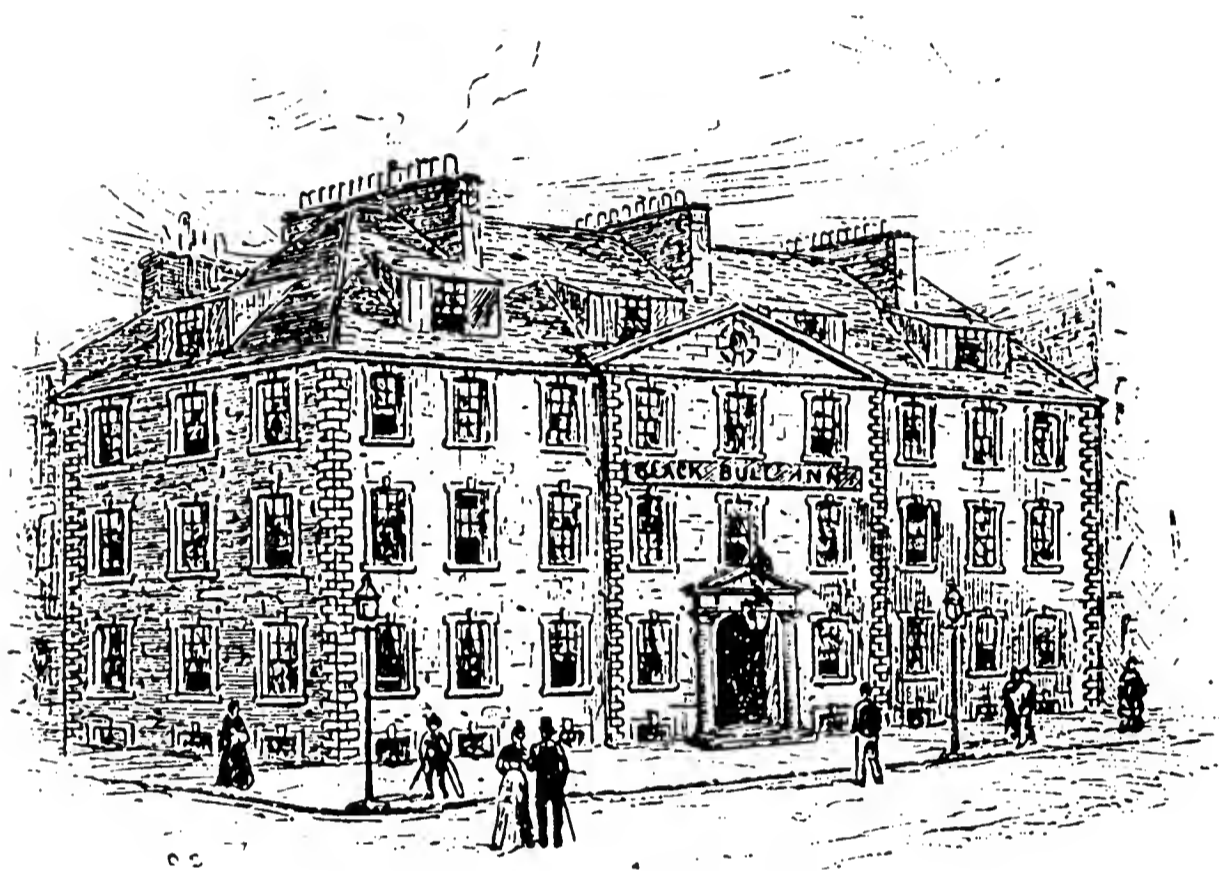


Plate 19

Black Bull Hotel, Argyle Street, Glasgow

Venue for the Club's official First Dinner, held on
30th January 1846.

He passed the Faculty examination in 1833, his probationary essay being *The Pathology and Treatment of Ramollissement of the Brain*", and continued to practise in Glasgow until 1846, when he was appointed a surgeon in the Royal Infirmary, which in those days had a tenure limited to four years. He subsequently became a member of the Board of Management of the Royal Infirmary (Anon., 1879; Gibson, 1983: 148-151).

In 1870 the University moved from the High Street to Gilmorehill, and in 1874 the Western Infirmary was opened as the University Teaching Hospital. Dr. Fleming, however, persuaded the authorities that the Royal should remain part of the University Medical Faculty, and he gave the inaugural address to the medical school at the Royal Infirmary in 1874. He was also President of the Glasgow Faculty from 1865 to 1868, and again from 1870 to 1872. He was the Faculty's representative on the General Medical Council for several years.

Dr. Fleming was apparently a very suitable choice to be first Secretary of the Club, for he is quoted as saying: "Any man has a perfect right to invite you to a dinner if he chooses, but not to a teetotal dinner without informing you of the fact beforehand". He was apparently a good judge of wine. He would hold up a glass of port and admiringly say "There is no gout there".

The minutes of the First Dinner of the Western Medical Club, held on 30th January 1846 in the Black Bull Hotel, Glasgow, say that it began at 5.00 p.m. and that "the greatest good feeling and hilarity prevailed and the party did not separate till a late hour". The Chairman that day was Dr. Robert Perry (Plate 18), who was on the staff of the Royal Infirmary for more than thirty years and was famous as the first doctor to state the difference between typhus and typhoid fever (Comrie, 1932: 534). He also reported to the Town Council his belief that disease was related to bad sanitation. Dr. John Macfarlane, University Professor of Medicine, was Vice-Chairman in the absence of Dr. A.D. Anderson.

The Black Bull Hotel (Plate 19) was erected by Mr. Glassford of Douglaston, Milngavie. From the Campbell family he had acquired the well known mansion of Shawfield, which stood in the Westergate, later called Argyle Street. The Black Bull was built just west of Shawfield House, at the foot of what is now Glassford Street. "This hotel became the resort of the fashionable of the period" (Sommerville, 1891: 41), i.e. the mid-1800s. After the Loyal Toast, the Secretary, Dr. Fleming, read the Laws of the Club twice.

The Club next met on Friday 31st July 1846, at Bell's Inn, Frisky, near Bowling Bay. There were nineteen members present at this dinner; John Macfarlane of

Glasgow was Chairman, and Robert McKechnie of Paisley was Vice-Chairman. Two new members were admitted from Glasgow, and one each from Johnstone, Renfrew and Port Glasgow. The minute concludes: "The day was delightful, the party in great spirits and the evening was spent with much harmony and hilarity".

The winter dinner of 1847 was held in the Wellington Hotel, which was situated on the north side of George Square, west of North Hanover Street (Sommerville, 1891: 43). Later in the nineteenth century, this hotel was amalgamated with the Queen's Hotel and the George Hotel to form the North British Station Hotel. Before the Wellington Hotel was amalgamated with these two other hotels, it was owned by a Mr. and Mrs McDonald who, when their hotel was bought over, moved to Brodick in Arran. There they acquired the Douglas Hotel, where the Club met for its summer dinner in July 1874.

The members of the Club were taken to their summer dinners in Ayr and Ardrossan by special train, in 1847 and 1848 respectively. This was part of the Glasgow, Paisley, Kilmarnock and Ayr Railway Company (Plates 20 and 21), which later became the Glasgow and South-Western Railway.

One cause of amusement and entertainment at many of the dinners, was an open discussion on the probable venue of the next dinner and a suitable menu. These discussions could be very prolonged, and almost always no decisions were taken, the matter usually being referred to the Committee of Management for a decision.

Also during the first fifty years or so of the Club, many amendments to the Laws were often laid on the table at one dinner, so that prolonged and frequently lighthearted discussions took place at the next dinner, with amendments sometimes being accepted but frequently dismissed.

The winter dinner of 1848 was held in the Buck's Head Hotel, at the corner of Argyle Street and Dunlop Street.

The votes of thanks minuted at some of the early dinners make one wonder if they were given with tongue-in-cheek, but more than likely the wording was in the usually flowery language of those times. For example, at the summer dinner held on 28th July 1848 at Ardrossan, it was said about the Chairman, Dr. Alexander Macfadzean of that town, "the evening was spent most agreeably, the meal arrangements, which had been made by our Chairman, received the full approbations of the party, and the entertainment, which was of the most complete and elegant description, reflected the greatest credit on Mr. McLerie, the landlord of the Eglinton Arms Inn".

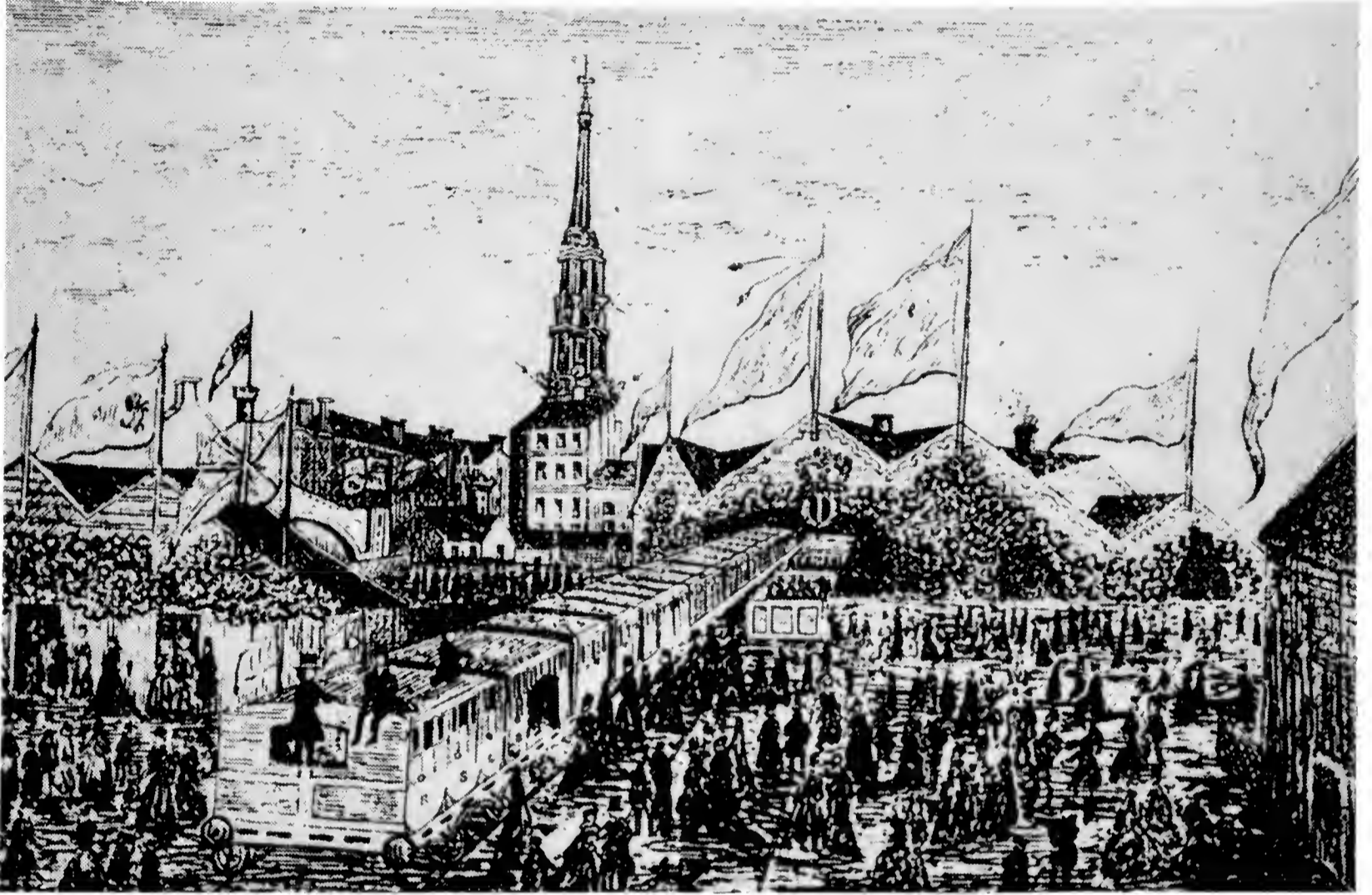


Plate 20

Opening of the Glasgow to Ayr Railway, 1840

Contemporary engraving.

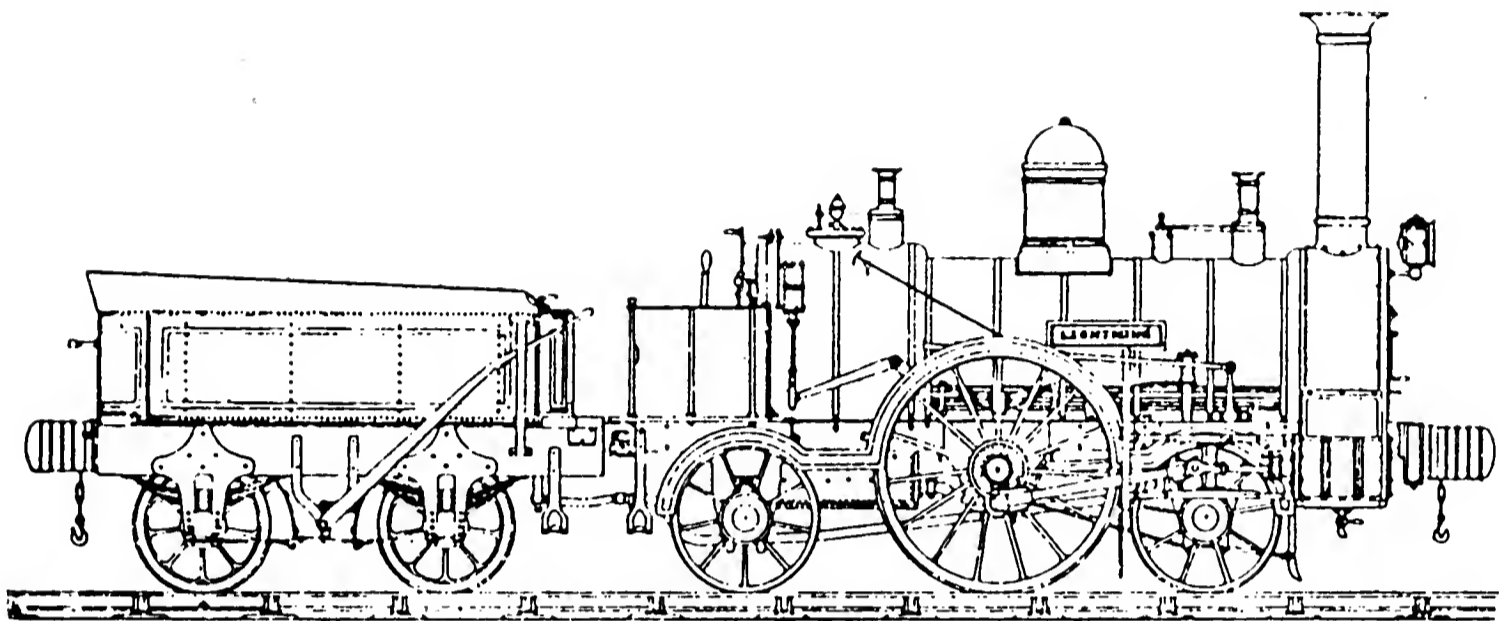


Plate 21

The *Lightning*; built 1840

First engine of the Glasgow, Paisley, Kilmarnock and Ayr Railway.
Still operating at the time of the Club's summer dinner on 30th July 1847.

The next winter dinner should have been held in Glasgow on 26th January 1849, but on 15th January the Committee of Management met and decided that this proposed dinner should be postponed, because of the great prevalence of cholera in Glasgow and the West of Scotland, and instructed the Secretary to notify the members accordingly.

The winter dinners in 1850 and 1851 were held in the Star Hotel, George Square (McFarlane, 1922: 8), and Dr. Fleming retired as Secretary at the latter dinner.

John Alexander Easton (Secretary 1851-1856)

Dr. John A. Easton (1807-1865) was appointed second Secretary of the Club at the summer dinner of 1851, held at the George Hotel, Kilmarnock. He was a Founder Member of the Club, having become a Licentiate of the Faculty in 1828 and an M.D. of the University in 1836. He retired from the Secretaryship of the Club in 1856.

Dr. Easton (Plate 22) was born in India, where his father was a doctor. After qualification he became a district surgeon in Glasgow, and then a police surgeon from 1840 to 1855. He lectured for many years in Anderson's College on Materia Medica, and was appointed Professor of Materia Medica at Glasgow University in 1855 (Comrie, 1932: 529). In that job it was said of him: "Grandiose rhetoric and political quotations added amusement to a dry subject". In the *Glasgow Medical Journal* of 1894, George Buchanan, who joined the Club in 1853, and was Professor of Clinical Surgery at the University from 1874 to 1900, described Dr. Easton as very pompous but very kind-hearted (Buchanan, 1894). He also said he was known by the students as 'The Czar', since he was in the habit of giving a wave of the hand as he passed them in his brougham. He will be long remembered as the inventor of the well-known iron tonic - Easton's Syrup. He died at his home in Blythswood Square, where he was attended during his last illness by his friends and fellow members of the Club, Dr. J.G. Fleming and Dr. John Coats.

Another source of entertainment began in 1854, when it was agreed to alter the Laws so that the Chairman could invite two guests to the dinner at the expense of the Club, as long as they were not local medical practitioners.

Dr. Charles F. Sloan, Chairman at the 1854 summer dinner, held in the King's Arms Hotel, Ayr, had as the Club's first guests: Gavin Gemmell Esq., a magistrate of Ayr, and James Robison Esq., Sheriff-Substitute of Ayrshire. It was "universally



Plate 22

John Alexander Easton

acknowledged" that the introduction of these non-medical friends had contributed very greatly to the harmony and conviviality of the meeting.

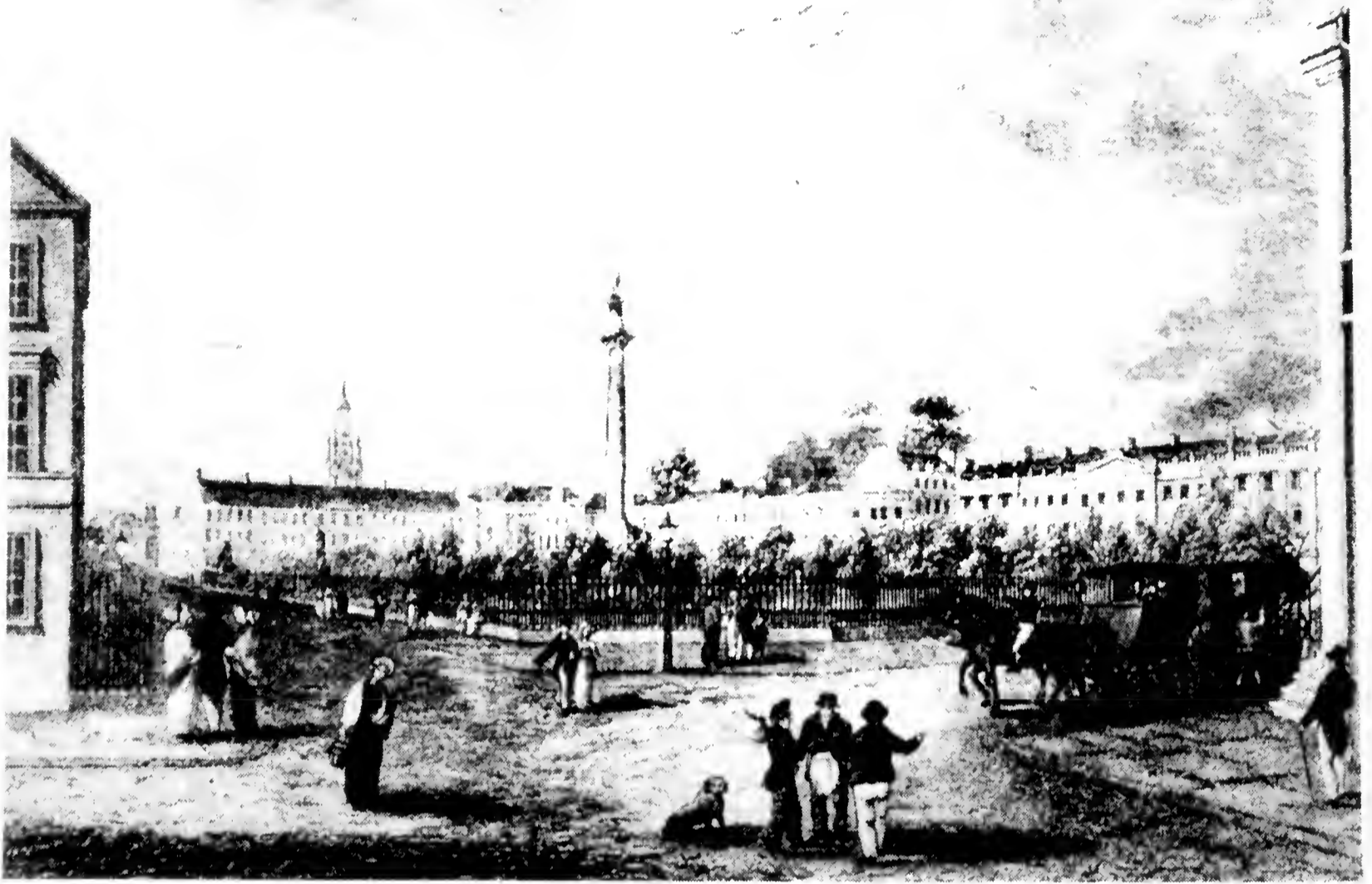
Dr. John Aitken of Glasgow, who chaired the 1855 winter dinner at Carrick's Royal Hotel, George Square, had as his guests: Andrew Orr Esq., Lord Provost of Glasgow (1854-1857), and the M.P. for the City, Alexander Hastie Esq. It would appear that the guests were invited to speak, since it says in the minutes that "they contributed very materially to the conviviality of the entertainment". The guests at the summer dinner that year in Woodrow's Hotel, Renfrew Wharf, were Dr. Bell, Surgeon to the Renfrewshire Militia, and George Hutchison Esq., Town Clerk of Renfrew. Woodrow's Hotel was one of two inns situated on Renfrew Wharf opposite Yoker, each of which had quoiting and bowling greens. When landing or embarking at Renfrew Wharf there was a charge of one penny. Passengers travelling from there to Paisley got their penny back, but had to pay to travel to Paisley on a horse-drawn railway coach (Note 11).

In the year 1857 only one dinner was held, which was on 24th April in Carrick's Hotel, Glasgow. A proposal to meet only once per year was originally put to the Club in July 1850, and after many discussions it was finally decided, in January 1856, that in 1857 and thereafter there would be only one dinner per year. At this winter dinner in 1856 Dr. Easton, the Secretary, retired from that office, and a "vote of thanks was tendered to the retiring Secretary and it was ordered that this vote should be engrossed in the minutes, accompanied by an expression of the high sense which the Club entertained of Dr. Easton's urbanity and assiduity in the discharge of his official duties." The Chairman at the 1857 dinner was Dr. Easton himself, whose guest was Mr. Pagan of the *Glasgow Herald*, who "enlivened a very ageeable evening by his musical talents, assisted by several of the members".

The winter dinners of the Club from 1852 to 1856 inclusive, and again in April 1857, were all held in Carrick's Royal Hotel, Glasgow, situated at the east end of the north side of George Square, between North Hanover Street and North Frederick Street (Sommerville, 1891: 43).

Thomas Watson (Secretary 1856-1862)

Dr. Thomas Watson (c.1815-1867), who joined the Club in 1849, was Secretary from 1856 to 1862, but his minutes were mostly brief and did not mention anything about entertainment. Although his minutes reported little or nothing of the repartee, recitations or singing at the dinners during his Secretaryship, there were considerable changes in the Laws and finances during his term of office.

**Plate 23****George Square, Glasgow**

View from the south-east, c. 1820. The extreme right of the picture shows the corner of the George Hotel.



Plate 24

George Square, Glasgow

View from the west, c. 1870. The George Hotel is the white building on the extreme right.

Thomas Watson became a Licentiate of the Faculty in 1836, M.D. of Glasgow University 1846, and a Fellow of the Faculty in 1851. He was Secretary of the Council of the Faculty, a physician at the Royal Infirmary and surgeon of Glasgow Prison. Dr. Watson was obviously a man of few words in his minutes, and may also have been somewhat reticent in his personal life, for although he held some relatively prominent positions in his professional life, it is surprisingly difficult to discover much more about him. As noted above, he qualified in medicine in 1836, so taking the average age for qualification in medicine in those days as twenty-one, this would make his date of birth about 1815. His name ceases to appear in the *Medical Register* after 1867, so presumably he died in that year.

The dinners of 1859, 1861 and also 1862 (which should by sequence have been a 'country' dinner) were all held in the George Hotel, which stood on the east end of George Square at the south-east corner with St. Vincent Street (Plates 23 and 24). It was moved to the north side of George Square in the early 1880s, and was eventually amalgamated with the old Queen's and Wellington Hotels to form the North British Station Hotel. Its original site was acquired for the building of the new Municipal Buildings, which were opened by Queen Victoria in 1888.

At the last Club dinner Dr. Watson organised, in Glasgow in 1862, it is of interest to see that Joseph Lister, Regius Professor of Surgery at Glasgow University, was elected a member. Lister attended two dinners, in 1863 and 1867, but did not attend the next four dinners, and so was no longer a member from 1869 under the attendance rule, Law XI. Others elected to membership at this dinner were Dr. Walter McKinlay, Paisley; Dr. McTyer, Maybole; Dr. Paton, Greenock; and Mr. William Shields, Surgeon, Irvine.

At the dinner held in the George Hotel, Glasgow on 25th July 1862, Dr. Watson retired from office, and proposed Dr. James Fraser of Glasgow as his successor. Dr. Watson was thanked for his services as Secretary.

James Fraser (Secretary 1862-1865)

Dr. James Fraser (1823-1870) who was elected a member of the Club in 1858, was the fourth Secretary, from 1862 to 1865. He became a Licentiate of the Faculty in 1844, a Fellow of the Faculty in 1851, and M.D. of King's College, Aberdeen in 1854.

He was appointed a physician and lecturer in the Royal Infirmary, and also received a government appointment as Inspector of Passengers for Clyde Ports.

He subsequently wrote *The Emigrant's Medical Guide* (Fraser, 1853). In 1865 he moved to Gatehouse-of-Fleet and died there in 1870 (Anon, 1870).

The dinners in 1863 and 1864 were held in the George Hotel, Glasgow, and Kilmarnock respectively. At the Kilmarnock dinner on 24th June 1864, seven new members were elected. One was a Country Member, Dr. William Prichard (see later) of Partick, which did not become part of Glasgow until 1912. Six Town members were elected: Dr. William Lyon, West George Street; Dr. William Tennant Gairdner, Blythswood Square; Dr. Francis H. Thomson, 10 Brandon Place; Dr. P.A. Simpson, 8 Brandon Place; Dr. James Martin, Bath Street; and Dr. Donald Dewar, Blythswood Square.

The Dr. William Prichard mentioned above was not, in fact, the notorious 'Glasgow Poisoner' or 'Human Crocodile', Dr. Edward William Pritchard (usually known as William Pritchard), who was found guilty of poisoning his mother-in-law and his wife, probably with antimony and aconite, and was hanged in 1865 (Roughead, 1906). There was some confusion over the name, for the Dr. William Prichard (i.e. name spelled without the 't', as correctly shown in the *Medical Register*) who was elected a member of the Club in 1864, apparently had his name originally mis-spelled in the minutes and membership list of the Club as 'Pritchard'. It was certainly a most unusual coincidence of name, date and profession, which no doubt gave our blameless Club member, Dr. William Prichard, a great deal of trouble at the time.

Most unfortunately, therefore, the Western Medical Club cannot claim the considerable distinction of having had as a member the last person to be publicly hanged in Glasgow (contemporary estimates of the crowd ranged from 80,000 to 100,000), on 28th July 1865 (House, 1961: 189). This would certainly have added another category to the reasons given by the Secretary for ceasing to be a member of the Club: died, resigned, inadequate attendance, and now hanged.

The Club can, however, claim at least some connection with the Pritchard poisoning case. On one occasion, when Mrs Pritchard was extremely ill from her husband's poisoning, and was being 'attended' by him, she cried out "I want to see another doctor. I want to see Dr. Gairdner. Fetch Dr. Gairdner" (House, 1961: 169), and sent a servant to summon him. This, of course, was our distinguished Club member, William Tennant Gairdner, then Regius Professor of Medicine at Glasgow University. Mrs Pritchard's brother was actually a doctor (Dr. William Taylor of Penrith) and it is pathetically reported that Mrs Pritchard, although desperately ill, was able to "apologise for not sending for [Professor Gairdner]

sooner and to remind him that her brother....and he had been classmates" (House, 1961: 169).

Gairdner was clearly puzzled by Mrs Pritchard's illness, but did not at that time suspect poisoning, and sent for Mrs Pritchard's brother. He, too, suspected nothing, and for a short time Mrs Pritchard's health improved, clearly because Dr. Pritchard, wary because of the presence of two astute physicians, temporarily suspended the administration of poison.

Dr. Fraser ultimately left Glasgow for Gatehouse-of-Fleet in 1865, apparently quite suddenly and without notifying the Committee of Management, so no dinner was held that year, but Dr. John Coats, the Treasurer, called a Special Meeting of the Town Members, to be held in the Faculty Hall on 5th July 1866 "to take into consideration the present state and further management of the Club".

At this business meeting, Dr. William Leishman was appointed interim Secretary and Dr. Newman interim Treasurer, after the Treasurer Dr. Coats intimated his resignation. Dr. Coats then immediately proposed that the annual subscription should in future be 10/- instead of 5/-. This proposal was referred to the next meeting, which was held in the Faculty Hall on 25th July, just under three weeks after Dr. Coats called the Special Meeting of the Club.

This was the first dinner of the Club to be held in the Faculty Hall. The Faculty had moved from their premises in St. Enoch Square to St. Vincent Street in 1862 (Gibson, 1983; Rodger, pers. comm.).

William Leishman (Secretary 1866-1880)

Dr. William Leishman (1833-1894) was appointed the fifth Secretary of the Club at the dinner held in the Faculty Hall, St. Vincent Street on 25th July 1866. He had joined the Club in 1859, and he continued in the Secretaryship until 1880.

Dr. Leishman (Plate 25) was the second son of the Reverend Dr. Leishman, Minister of Govan Parish Church. He qualified M.D. at Glasgow University in 1855, and was in general practice in Glasgow for several years. In 1862 he was appointed Professor of Medical Jurisprudence at Anderson's College, and the same year became joint Editor of the *Glasgow Medical Journal*, two years later becoming the sole Editor. Also in 1864 he published the textbook *The Mechanism of Parturition*, and in 1873 published *A System of Midwifery*, which had reached its fourth edition by 1888 and also three editions in the U.S.A. Professor John Pagan, who had joined the Club in 1854, was Professor of Midwifery at Glasgow



Plate 25

William Leishman

University, with beds in the lying-in hospital, called 'The College Open', beside the Old College in the High Street. He died in 1868 and William Leishman succeeded him as Professor of Midwifery.

Professor Leishman served on the University Court, and represented the University on the General Medical Council. Professor W.T. Gairdner said "he had a great store of loyalty and reasonableness". His son William Boog Leishman, born in 1865, qualified M.B., Ch.B. at Glasgow, and in 1923 became Director General of the R.A.M.C. as a Lieutenant General, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., F.R.S. The tropical disease Leishmaniasis was named after him. Professor Leishman went to Paris in 1892 to meet his son, who was coming home on sick leave from India. While there he heard of the death of his close friend Sir George Macleod, Professor of Surgery at Glasgow University. Leishman developed a cerebral thrombosis, never quite recovered, and subsequently died in 1894 (Anon., 1894).

1866-1870

Towards the end of the dinner on 25th July 1866, the new Secretary, Dr. Leishman, announced that the Club now consisted of the full complement of thirty Town Members and thirty Country Members, and that he also had several names on the waiting list. He congratulated the members on the fact that there were present that night seven more members than the previous highest attendance since the establishment of the Club. Dr. Leishman's lengthy report on the Club was given at this dinner, and a subsequent Special General Meeting of the members was held in the Faculty Hall to alter the Laws of the Club.

The dinner on 25th January 1867, in the Faculty Hall, was reported by the Secretary "to have proved a most agreeable one and was much enlivened by the musical talent of several of the members". At the next dinner, held in Mrs. Moncur's Inn at Bowling in July 1867, "it seemed to be the unanimous opinion of the members that to dispense with the usual formalities of a public dinner was fitted to conduce to the pleasant social intercourse and hilarity of the Club meetings". Mrs Moncur's Inn was almost certainly Bell's Inn, where the Inaugural Dinner of the Club was held on 25th July 1845; it was still used as a hotel until the 1920s.

At the winter dinner in Glasgow in January 1869, a wish was expressed that by way of variety in the nature of the Club meetings, the next summer dinner should take the form of a picnic and general holiday. If this proved practicable, it was agreed that such a meeting should be held at Loch Lomond. "So on 30th July 1869, the Club met there and owing to the liberality of the Lochlomond Steamboat Company, a special steamer was arranged and the weather being propitious, it

sailed from Balloch pier with 28 members on board". Dr. James Jeffray joined the steamer at Inversnaid, and it was with great regret that the members found themselves unable to accept of his kindly proffered hospitality. The members landed at Ardlui pier for an hour and a half, and sat down to dinner shortly after returning on board for the homeward trip. A special train was waiting at Balloch pier for the conveyance of the members, who reached Glasgow at 9.30 p.m.

This was the first 'on board' dinner which the Club held, and the steamer would have been either the *Prince of Wales* (Plate 30), *Prince Consort* or *Princess of Wales*, which were the three paddle steamers sailing regularly on Loch Lomond in 1869 (Duckworth and Langmuir, 1937: 101-103); all had saloons, so dining would be a very pleasant experience.

This new type of summer dinner was considered a great success by all concerned, and at the summer dinner of 1870, held at the King's Arms Hotel, Ayr, it was decided to hold a similar excursion at a future summer dinner. Thirty members were present at this meeting - thirteen Town and seventeen Country Members - and very deep regret was expressed at the recent death of the Treasurer of the Club, Dr. Francis Hay Thomson.

1871-1876

At the winter dinner in the Faculty Hall on 29th January 1871 "a very general desire was expressed that the next country meeting should take the form of an excursion similar to that on Loch Lomond (1869) which had been so successful in every way", so on 27th July 1871 the Club hired the paddle steamer *Balmoral*, which left Albert Pier, later renamed Princes Pier, in Greenock for a sail round the island of Bute "and in spite of the weather which was, to say the least, inclement, the members managed to pass a very agreeable day". Dinner was served after they passed the Kyles, and having dropped some members at Kilcreggan, the steamer returned to Greenock in time for the separate trains to Ayrshire and Glasgow - part of the Greenock and Ayrshire Railways.

As can be seen from the photograph (Plate 26), the *Balmoral* was very much an 'open' type of paddler (i.e. with no real saloon) in the fairly spartan style of the basic Clyde paddle steamers of the day. Saloons for the greater comfort of passengers only came into general use on the Clyde steamers from the late 1870s onwards (McQueen, 1923; Paterson, 1972), although the Loch Lomond steamers all had saloons from very much earlier years. The remarks of the Secretary writing the minutes that the Club members "in spite of the weather" passed "a very agreeable day" may have been somewhat ironic, since it could hardly have been

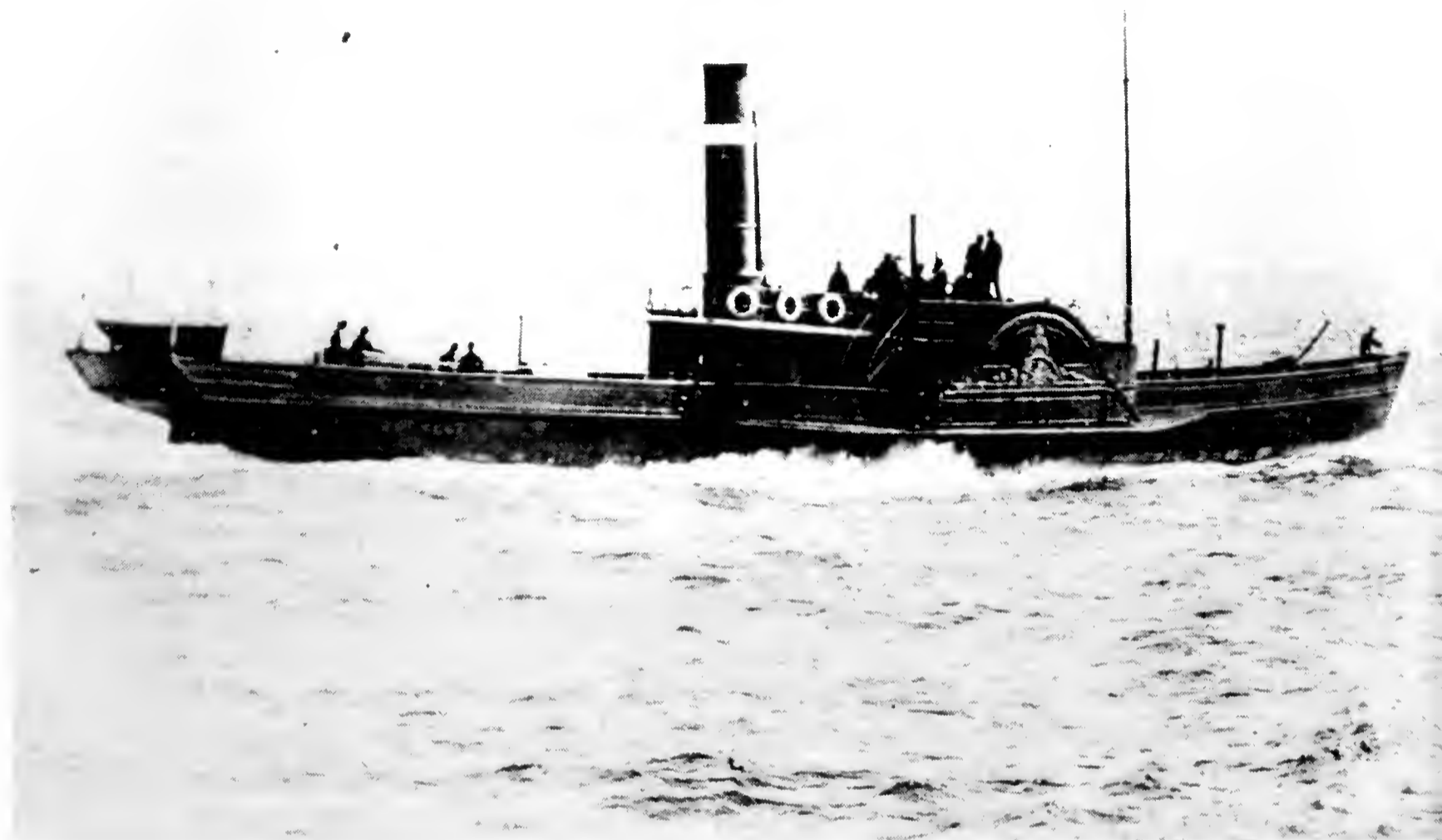


Plate 26

P.S. Balmoral on Clyde

The *Balmoral* was an early 'open' type of Clyde paddle steamer (built in 1842), with no real saloon for dining and very little other protection for passengers. Venue for summer dinner on 28th July 1871, but the Club never repeated the experience, and eleven years passed before the members again dined on board a Clyde steamer, this time with a saloon for dining. For further details, see text.

very pleasant attempting to dine on board the rather rough-and-ready *Balmoral* on the fairly exposed waters of the Clyde. It is also significant that the Club members did not repeat this experiment for another eleven years, i.e. until saloons were in general use on Clyde steamers (see Plate 33), although there were three other such dinners on Loch Lomond steamers in the interval. In actual fact, until nearly the turn of the century the Loch Lomond vessels remained very much more 'up-market' and elegant than the average Clyde paddler; hence, no doubt, the much greater popularity of Loch Lomond sailing with the Club members.

At the next dinner, in the Faculty Hall in January 1872, forty-one members were present, which the Secretary said was the largest attendance at any Club dinner so far held. After dinner, a very long discussion took place about the coming summer dinner, and ultimately it was agreed that, in accordance with the normal practice of the Club, every second country dinner should take place in the county of Ayrshire, so the next country dinner was therefore held in Kilmarnock. The evening was spent with great hilarity, and the members derived additional pleasure from the presence as guests of Professor A. Dickson, Dr. Donaldson of the Madras Army, and Dr. P.H. Watson from Edinburgh. This dinner was held in the George Hotel, and the minutes concluded: "The members of the Club passed an agreeable evening and separated with much regret at an hour which was unfortunately too early for all" (Plate 27).

The winter dinner in 1873 was held in McKain's Hotel, St. Vincent Street. This was probably the Windsor Hotel, which Sommerville (1891) describes as being in St. Vincent Street. The Secretaries of the Club quite often referred to the various hotels by the names of their proprietors instead of the name of the hotel. Thirty-nine members were present, and the Secretary, Professor William Leishman, mentioned that there were no fewer than twenty names on the list for ballot, but that the Club was at present full. After some discussion, it was eventually moved by Dr. McFie Smith, seconded by Dr. Scott Orr, that the next dinner be held on Loch Lomond, and the dinner was, in fact, held in the saloon of a steamer owned by the Lochlomond Steamboat Company.

At the following winter dinner of 1874 in the Faculty Hall, it was decided to have the next summer dinner on Arran. The Club met in the Douglas Hotel, Brodick, on 31st July 1874, and the minutes stated "that the only arrangement possible in order to have the meeting in Arran was by having accommodation provided for the night for such members as could conveniently be present. The dinner hour being fixed for seven o'clock, it was thus possible for members to leave Glasgow at 4.15 p.m. and be back the following morning at 9.30 a.m.

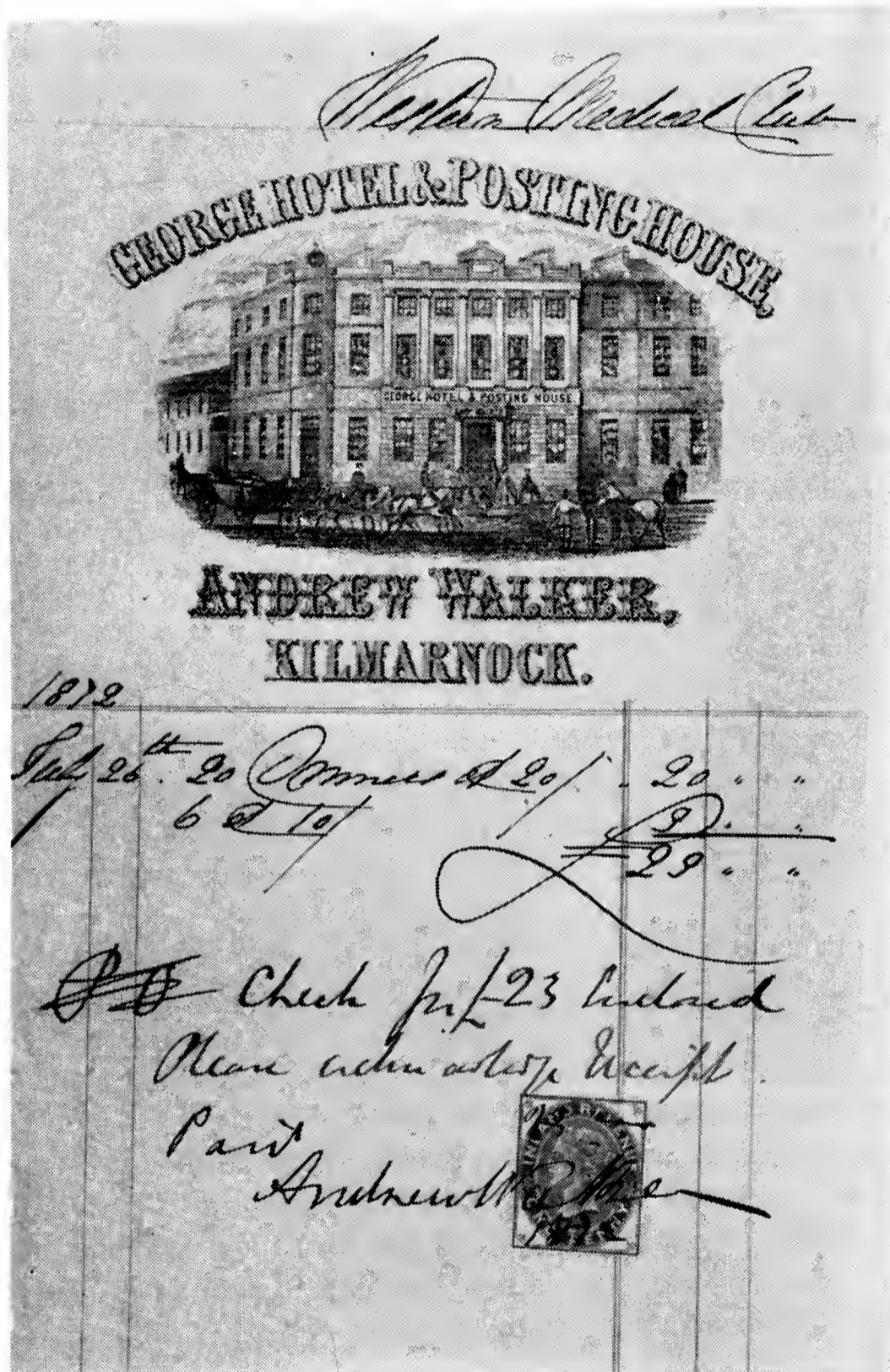


Plate 27

George Hotel, Kilmarnock

Received bill for the Club's summer dinner on 26th July 1872.

Arrangements were also made to suit those who were able to come at an earlier hour, whereby various points of interest in the island might be visited".

"Most unfortunately, after some seven weeks of almost perfect weather, the 31st was ushered in by a gale and rain fell during the greater part of the day. A few adventurous spirits whose Alpine experiences made them loath to lose the challenge of a mountain scramble, drove to Glen Sannox and actually made their way up the glen and by the pass of the Saddle down Glen Rosa to the hotel in time for dinner. Probably in the experience of the Club no members were ever more thoroughly drenched and it is wise to put on record that after dinner, these gentlemen were heard to declare that they had enjoyed themselves. It is perhaps not too much to suppose that this opinion was in some degree stimulated by the admirable arrangements for their comfort and refreshment which had been made by Mr. and Mrs McDonald".

The McDonalds were the owners of the Douglas Hotel, and had previously managed the Wellington Hotel in George Square, Glasgow, where the 1847 winter dinner was held. "After dinner, the various toasts were drunk and in general discussion, expression was given to the opinion that the approaching marriage of a member was not a valid excuse for his absence from the meeting. Only five Town and eleven Country Members were present".

On 30th July 1875 the Club met on "a saloon steamer, specially chartered from the Lochlomond Steamboat Company", with twenty-three members present and several other members of the profession also there as guests. They sailed from Balloch to the head of Loch Lomond, where the members landed for a time, and on returning aboard sat down to dinner. "The weather was fine and the meeting in every respect, a thorough success, although at one time, curious apprehension arose in consequence of the reported inebriety of the cook. The utmost hilarity prevailed, more especially as the evening approached, which was kept up with much spirit during the journey homewards and only ceased on the breaking up of the party at Balloch railway station". The last sentence of the minute says "the utmost hilarity.....was kept up with much spirit". This must have been very true, for there is an account in the Club's records dated 28th July 1875, two days before this outing, from "Gibb and Bruce, Wine Merchants, 57 Buchanan Street for the total sum of £11.9s.10d for 23 bottles of champagne, 7 bottles of claret, 7 bottles of sherry, 2 bottles of brandy, 1 bottle of rum, 3 bottles of whisky and 5 dozen bottles of soft drinks".

The receipt for this outing in fact shows that the steamer was the paddle steamer *Princess of Wales*. The numbers who sat down to dinner were twenty-

three members and five guests. The dinner cost 8/6d per head, a bottle of brandy 7/-, aerated waters 6/-, bread and cheese 8/-, and breakages 3/-, in a total of £13.2s.0d. The hire of the *Princess of Wales* from the Lochlomond Steamboat Company was £15.

At the winter dinner in February 1876, apart from the meal, most of the meeting was taken up by a discussion about Honorary Members of the Club. Immediately thereafter the following were elected Honorary Members: Dr. John G. Fleming, a Founder Member and first Secretary of the Club; Professor Allen Thomson F.R.S., who was never an ordinary member of the Club; Mr. John Pollock, Surgeon, Mearns; and Dr. John Paxton, Kilmarnock.

Professor Allen Thomson (1819-1884) was the first non-member to be elected an Honorary Member of the Club, and he was elected during his last year as Professor of Anatomy at Glasgow University. He had previously been Professor of Anatomy at Marischal College, Aberdeen, and then Professor of Physiology at Edinburgh University, before coming to Glasgow in 1848 as Professor of Anatomy at the University. He was the first President of the Glasgow Medico-Chirurgical Society, formed in 1866. He was very involved in the move of the University from High Street to Gilmorehill, being Chairman of the Committee organising the removal (Comrie, 1932: 521-522, 536).

Professor Thomson was very well known for his research in embryology and microscopical anatomy, and eventually his collection of anatomical specimens was added to the Hunterian collection in the University.

Shortly after the University moved to Gilmorehill, it was reported that a policeman had been seen trespassing in the grounds, and Professor Thomson and Dr. William Weir went together to Partick police station to complain, since the police had no jurisdiction in the grounds of the University.

The winter dinner of 1876 finished with the Committee being instructed to arrange the summer dinner in Ayrshire, but not in Ayr. It was, in fact, held in the George Hotel, Kilmarnock, and at the dinner the Secretary reported that he had received a letter of resignation, because of age and infirmity, from Dr. William Weir, a Founder Member. The Secretary was instructed to convey to Dr. Weir "an expression of the sincere regret of the Club on being made aware of his resignation and more particularly of its cause". The Standing Orders were suspended, and Dr. Weir was unanimously appointed to the vacant Honorary Town Membership.

1877-1880

At the next dinner, in the Faculty Hall on 26th January 1877, the Secretary intimated, with the greatest regret, the death of Dr. William Weir (Gibson, 1983: 199-201). The Committee then recommended that Dr. Andrew Buchanan of Bath Street, Glasgow, should be elected an Honorary Town Member in Dr. Weir's place; Dr. Buchanan was also a Founder Member of the Club

The 1877 summer dinner was held at the Clydesdale Arms Hotel, Lanark with eighteen members present; some, by taking an earlier train, were able to visit the Falls of Clyde (Plate 28). "The members present passed a most agreeable evening, the only regret being that the railway arrangements were such as to necessitate the breaking up of the party at an inconveniently early hour".

During the January 1878 dinner, "the proceedings were enlivened from time to time by the singing of a professional glee party as well as by some of the members and guests. It was a matter of general remark that there had seldom been a more numerously attended and never a more successful and enjoyable meeting of this Club". At this dinner Dr. J.B. Russell, the first full-time Medical Officer of Health for Glasgow, was elected a member of the Club.

At the 1878 summer dinner, in the Royal Hotel, Innellan, twenty-nine members were present. It was intimated that Professor Allen Thomson had ceased, in consequence of his removal from Glasgow, to be eligible as an Honorary Member on the Town list. It was agreed to transfer his name to the Country list, and thereafter Dr. John B. Cowan was unanimously elected an Honorary Town Member in place of Professor Thomson. Unlike the usual minutes concerning the food served at the dinner, the minutes of this meeting finished: "After a hurried and rather unsatisfactory dinner, the meeting broke up. The majority of members present returning by special steamer to Greenock in time for the last train."

The January 1879 meeting, in the Faculty Hall, contained in its minutes "It may be interesting to record in the minutes that while the members were at dinner, the verdict in the trial of the Directors and Manager of the ill-fated City of Glasgow Bank was communicated to the meeting, having been received from Edinburgh by telegraph" (see Note 12). In spite of that sad news, the last sentence in the minutes reads "In every sense of the word, perfect harmony prevailed and the members separated after spending a most pleasant, enjoyable evening".

At the 1880 winter dinner in the Faculty Hall, the members, with several guests, sat down to a sumptuous repast, purveyed by Messrs Ferguson & Forrester, who

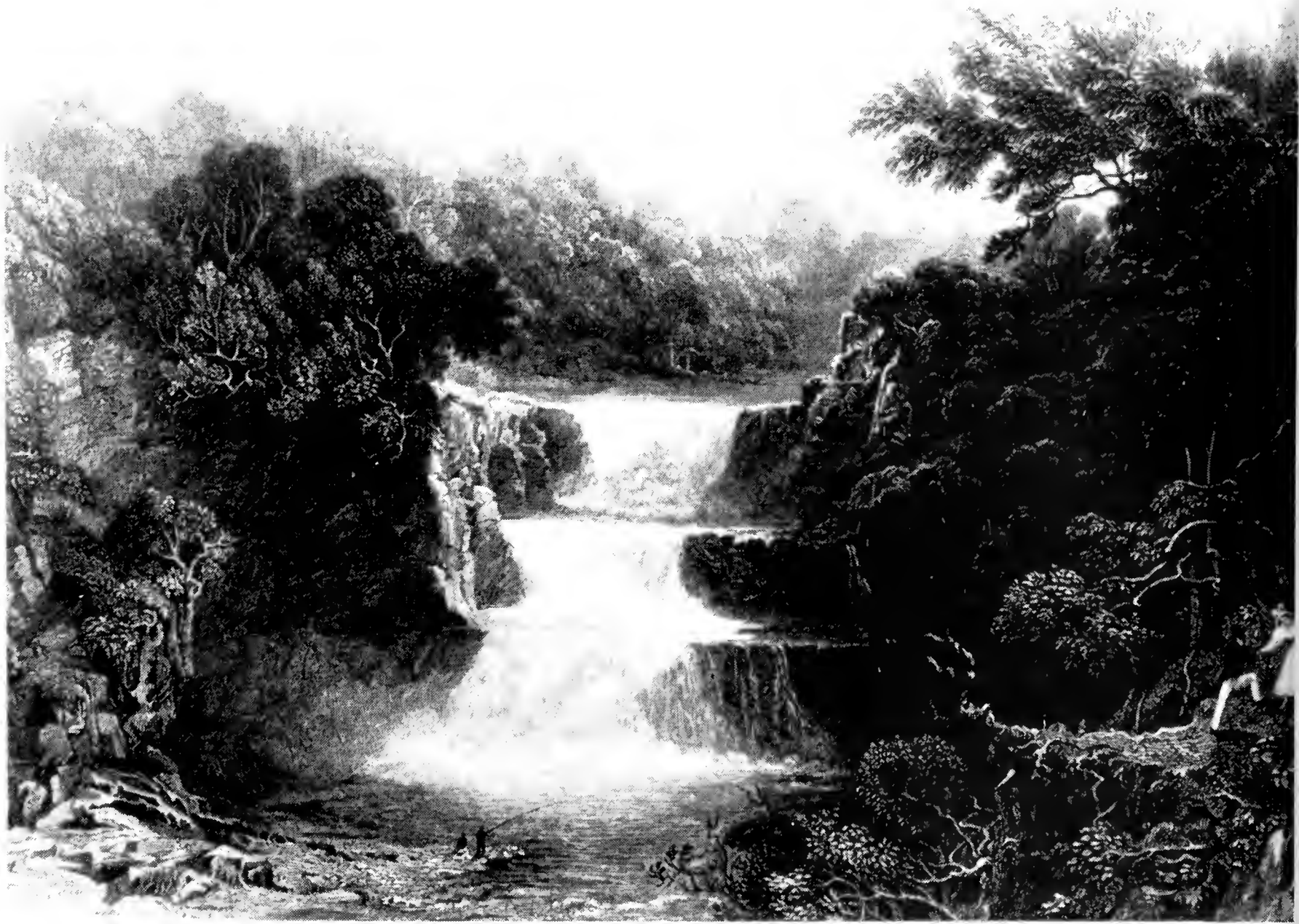


Plate 28

The Falls of Clyde

Visited by members of the Club, in the course of the summer dinner at Lanark,
on 27th July 1877. Detail from a contemporary painting.

were used many times by the Club. "The entertainment was much enlivened by the presence of musicians, who discoursed sweet music during and after dinner...Drs Wallace, Foulis, Brodie and others likewise materially contributed to the enjoyment of the evening by singing several songs". The receipt for £3.3s.0d., the fee paid to the musicians, is in the Club's records. There is also a receipt from a Mr. John Bratten for 12/-, being 10/- for waiting at the dinner and 2/- for his cab home. The members were likewise much delighted by a recitation of *Mr. Bob Sawyer's Supper Party* and by imitations of leading actors by a Mr. Baynham (see Note 13).

This Mr. Baynham was apparently a professional impressionist, for the Treasurer's records include a letter of thanks, on notepaper headed 16 Shaftesbury Terrace, Glasgow, dated 1st February 1880, expressing thanks for receipt of his fee:

"Dear Sir,

Allow me to acknowledge your very kind favour of yesterday with the enclosed: so generously considerate.

With many thanks
and the delightful evening your kind invite enabled me to pass.

I am dear sir
Always yours most."

"Dr. Mackenzie proposed that the Management Committee consider that for the next summer dinner, a steamer be chartered for the occasion to sail up Loch Long or Loch Fyne, returning to dinner at the hotel at Hunter's Quay". The summer dinner of 1880, however, was actually held on board the P.S. *Princess of Wales* on Loch Lomond.

Also at this winter dinner of 1880 the Chairman, Dr. Mather of Glasgow, read a letter from Professor Leishman intimating his resignation from the office of Secretary. A committee composed of Professor Gairdner, Professor McCall Anderson, Dr. Mather and Dr. Scott Orr "was thereupon appointed to wait upon Professor Leishman with the view of inducing him to withdraw his resignation of the Secretaryship, the duties of which he had so long and so efficiently discharged".

The above committee met Professor Leishman at his home at 11 Woodside Crescent, Glasgow on 31st January 1880, but he could not be persuaded to withdraw his resignation, although he wished to remain a member of the Club. The committee then recommended to the Club that Professor Thomas McCall

Anderson resign as Treasurer to become Secretary, and that the new Treasurer should be Dr. Hector C. Cameron. These appointments were agreed to at the next dinner, on 30th July 1880, while sailing on Loch Lomond, and at the winter dinner of 1881 (see later) Professor Leishman was elected an Honorary Member.

Thomas McCall Anderson (Secretary 1880-1892)

Dr. Thomas McCall Anderson (1836-1908) became the sixth Secretary of the Club in 1880, after having retired from the office of Treasurer which he had occupied for the previous ten years (Plate 29).

In 1874 Dr. Anderson had transferred from the Royal Infirmary to the Western Infirmary, and at the same time he was appointed the first Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University. In 1899 Professor William Tennant Gairdner retired, and Professor Anderson became Regius Professor of Medicine in his place at Glasgow University until his death in 1908. He was thus a university professor of medicine for thirty-four years. Before that he was Professor of Medicine at Anderson's College for just over ten years. He was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University from 1899, and the University representative on the General Medical Council from 1903 until his death in 1908. He died very suddenly, just after making the last speech at the Glasgow Ayrshire Dinner. He helped to found the Glasgow Hospital for Skin Diseases, and achieved international fame as a dermatologist, for which he was knighted in 1905.

The minutes of the winter dinner of 1881, held in the Faculty Hall, state that "After dinner, the proceedings were enlivened by the performances of a glee party provided by the Club, and many of the members favoured us with song and recitations, which gave much satisfaction. The forty members and four guests separated highly delighted with the evening's proceedings". At this meeting Professor William Leishman was elected an Honorary Town Member, with acclamation.

1881-1883

On 29th July 1881 the Club met at the Dumfries Arms Inn, Cumnock, when the Chairman was Dr. John Robertson of Dumbarton. "Carriages were in waiting on the 2.30 p.m. train from Glasgow which drove the members to Cumnock passing by Ballochmyle and through the Auchinleck and Dumfries House grounds. The day was fine and the members were much pleased with the excursion. Dinner was served at 6.00 p.m. in the Dumfries Arms Inn which gave much satisfaction, the quality of the wines being particularly appreciated. During dinner, Lady Boswell's

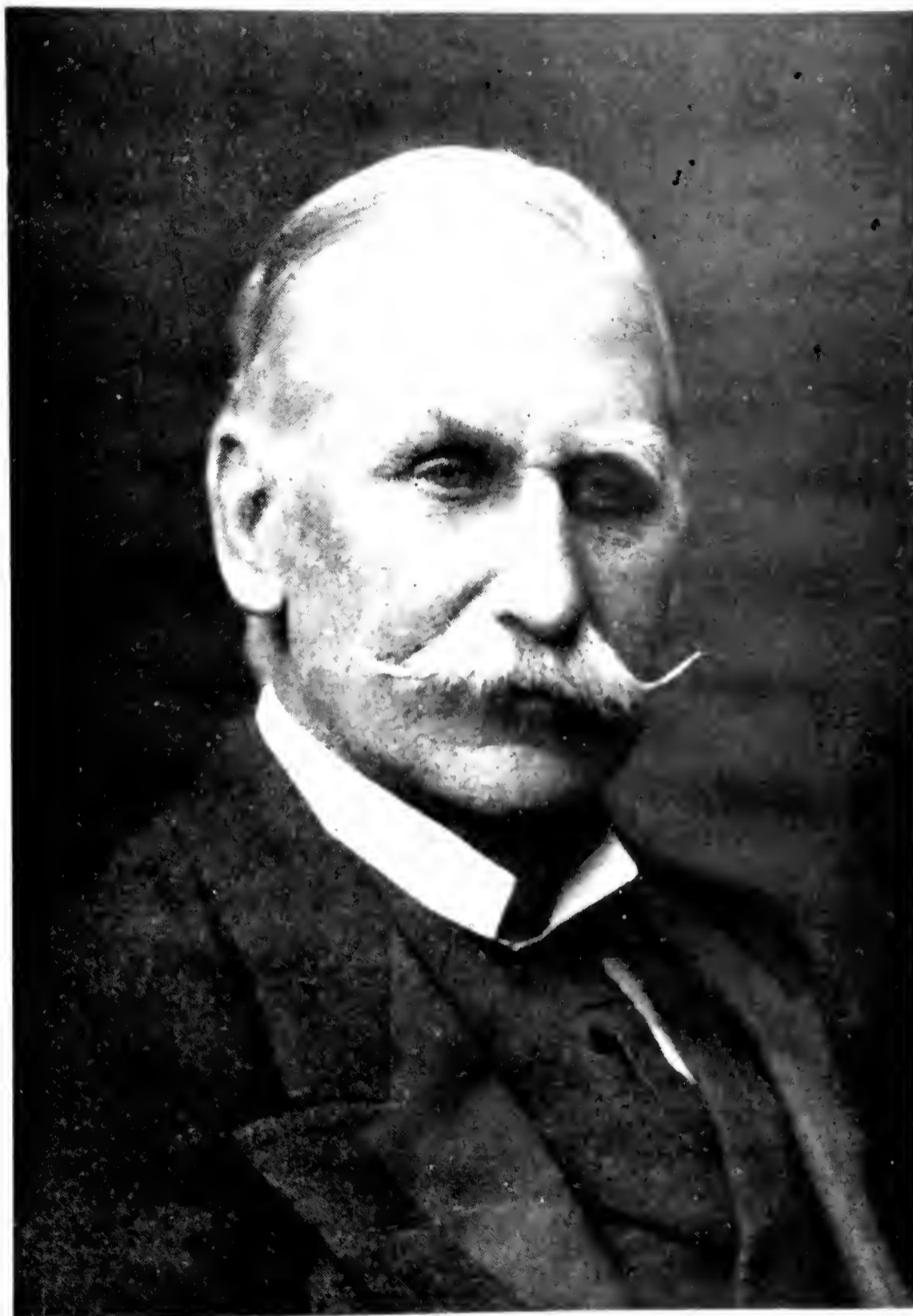


Plate 29

Thomas McCall Anderson

band contributed greatly to enliven the entertainment and after dinner some excellent songs were sung by the members, the rendering of *Annie Laurie* by Dr. Lawrence being specially admired. The twenty-two diners returned by the 9.14 train, greatly pleased with the day's entertainment".

The Treasurer's records contain a printed account headed "Dumfries Arms Hotel, Cumnock; proprietor James Murray", dated July 1881, to Glasgow Western Club with the following items detailed:

22 Dinners at 25/-.	£27.10s.0d.
Carriages, Tolls and Drivers	£03.12s.6d.
Band	£03.05s.0d.
	Total £34.07s.6d

The sum of £18.00 had previously been paid to Mr. Murray, and the final account is receipted by James Murray for £16.7s.6d., over a one penny Queen Victoria stamp.

At the next winter dinner, a glee company was again engaged by the Club, and Dr. Wallace of Greenock, in particular, aroused the enthusiasm of the meeting by his artistic rendering of *The Miller of the Dee* and other songs (see Appendix 4).

On 28th July 1882 the dinner was held on the steamer *Shandon* (Plate 33), which sailed from Princes Pier, Greenock, up Loch Striven, picking up members at Dunoon and Rothesay on the way.

The winter dinner of 1883 was, as previously, entertained by a glee company, and the 1883 summer dinner was held at Kilmarnock. "Most of the members proceeded by the 2.30 p.m. train from Glasgow to Newmilns to attend the summer dinner to be held at Kilmarnock on 27th July 1883. At Newmilns, carriages were in waiting to take the members through the grounds of Lanfine. These were much admired and a deputation called at Lanfine House and thanked Miss Brown for her kindness in permitting them to have free access to her grounds and gardens. It was intended to visit the famous laceworks at Darvel on the way back to Kilmarnock, but it was found that there was not sufficient time at the disposal of the members to enable them to do so, which was much regretted. The dinner at the George Hotel, Kilmarnock, did great credit to Mr. Walker, the Manager, the quality, not less than the quantity of the champagne being fully appreciated. Dr. McAllister of Kilmarnock acted as Chairman with much acceptance - while the merry

countenance of Professor Dunlop beamed upon the members from the Vice-Chair". Professor James Dunlop was Professor of Surgery at Anderson's College from 1869 to 1895. He joined the Western Medical Club in 1868.

"Dr. McAllister - in proposing the toast the 'Western Medical Club' which he did in the most felicitous manner - made passing reference to the probability of Professors being men, a point which has recently much agitated the professional mind. This was warmly resented by Professor Gairdner, who in his happiest vein, gave urgent proof in favour of the truth of the proposition but the upshot of the discussion was to leave the matter in considerable doubt, so much so that the gentlemen more immediately concerned, felt very unhappy, took the first train for Glasgow and determined to make up a case for the opinion of Counsel".

1884-1886

On 25th January 1884 the winter dinner was held in the Faculty Hall under the genial chairmanship of Professor James Dunlop. After dinner the services of several professional musicians were in much request, and the evening was enlivened by songs, recitations and stories by Drs Wallace, Napier, Mather, Gairdner, Cameron and others.

A lengthy discussion took place as to the venue of the ensuing summer dinner. Many varied and contradictory opinions were given as to the most appropriate scene of operations, and it was ultimately left to the Committee to arrange the matter. It was thought, however, that a very difficult and delicate task had been placed in their hands, since their instructions were not much clearer than the song of the Chairman Dr. McAllister's "Hi-the-daddy, Ho-the-daddy, Hi-the-daddy Ho".

"The summer dinner was held that year on board the P.S. *Prince of Wales* (Plate 30), which left Balloch pier on the arrival of the 1.40 p.m. train from Glasgow. On board were Drs George Beatson, Samson Gemmell and David Newman who were elected Town Members of the Club. After steaming up to Inversnaid, the members landed and were photographed in a group near the waterfall there, the only hitch being that while the group was being taken, Dr. Messer's beard was seen to be floating in the breeze. The suggestion that in future, no member of the Club should be photographed in a group whose hirsute appendices were laible to be influenced by such vicissitudes of weather, was generally approved of".

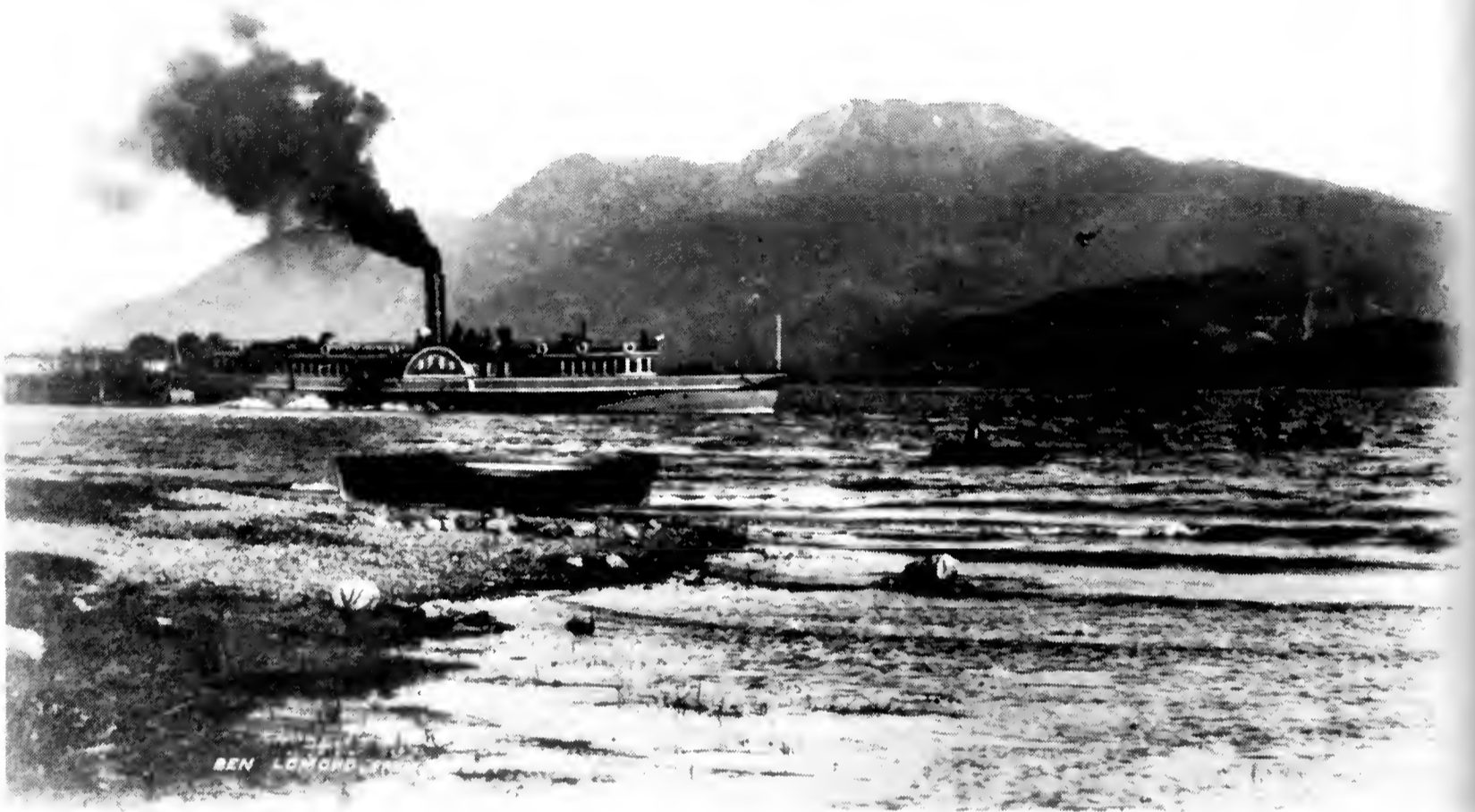


Plate 30

P.S. Prince of Wales on Loch Lomond

Venue for the Club's summer dinner of 1884, and probably earlier years.

Built in 1858, the *Prince of Wales* was the oldest of the four paddle steamers sailing on Loch Lomond at this time, but had splendid all-weather saloons with excellent facilities for dining, as had all later Loch Lomond steamers. This no doubt explained the popularity of Loch Lomond sailing with the Club members, as opposed to the more exposed waters and paddlers of the Clyde, which were avoided for eleven years after the initial experience in 1871.

Photograph shows the *Prince of Wales* leaving Luss pier.

Dr. Messer's beard was probably similar in type to Principal Barclay's beard, in the photograph where the members of the Senate are leaving the Old College for the last time in 1870 (Plate 15). Principal Barclay is on the left at the bottom of the steps.

The company of twenty-three persons thereafter feasted in the usual fashion in the dining saloon of the steamer, while it wended its way towards Balloch. The day was everything that could be desired. Dr. Dunlop, by special request, repeated the story of Alister Macalister (see Note 14).

Macalister

Clansmen the peats are burning bright, sit round them in a ring,
And I will tell of that great night I danced before the King.
For as a dancer in my youth, so great was my renown,
The King himself invited me to visit London town.
My brand new presentation kilt and ornaments, I wore,
As with my skean dhu I rapped upon the palace door.
And soon I saw a lord or duke come running down the stair,
Who to the keyhole put his mouth, demanding who was there.
"Open the door", I sternly cried "as quickly as you can.
Is this the way that you receive a Highland Gentleman?"
The door was opened, word went round, Macalister is here,
And at the news the palace rang with one tremendous cheer.

The King was sitting on his throne but down the steps he came,
Immediately the waiting lord pronounced my magic name.
The lovely ladies of the court, with pearls and jewels decked,
All blushed and trembled as I bowed to them with great respect.

Slowly at first with hands on hips, I danced with ease and grace,
Then raised my hands above my head and swifter grew the pace,
Until no human eye could see my steps so slight and quick,
And from the floor great clouds of dust came rising fast and thick.
The King was greatly moved and shook my hand in friendship true,
"Alas" he cried, "although a King I cannot dance like you".
And then the gracious Queen herself came shyly up to me
And pinned a medal on my breast for everyone to see.

Her whisper I shall ne'er forget nor how her eyes grew dim,
"Oh where were you Macalister the day I married Him?"

"The members were hilarious without being uproarious and yet for the first time in the Annals of the Club, not a single song was sung: indeed everyone seemed so happy as not to feel the want of any such accompaniments. After a most enjoyable day, the members separated without having passed any resolution in favour of the abolition of the House of Lords, although there was a general feeling that if new Peers are to be made, at least one member of the Club was clearly entitled to a seat in the Upper House".

The winter dinner of 1885 was held as usual in the Faculty Hall, beginning at 5.00 p.m. under the Chairmanship of Professor John Young. Professor Young had joined the Western Medical Club in 1869. He was Professor of Natural History in the University from 1866 until 1902; his subject at that time containing geology and zoology. He was the third incumbent of the Chair, which was founded in 1807 by King George III. Thirty-nine members and several guests partook of a sumptuous repast purveyed by Messrs Ferguson & Forrester in their usual style, the curried frogs being specially appreciated. There were four guests, thus giving a total of forty-three sitting down to dinner.

"After dinner, a discussion took place on the venue of the summer meeting. Dr. Douglas Reid, of Helensburgh, proposed that the Club should go to Helensburgh, charter a steamer and dine on board, while cruising about the Gareloch and the Clyde. Dr. Mather moved an amendment that Aberfoyle should be the place of the meeting. This was seconded by Dr. Stewart of Kirkintilloch and supported by Dr. Munro of Kilmarnock and Professors Simpson and Macleod. The last named gentleman said that 'he had never been there', a statement that was received by loud and long continued cries of 'shame!' Dr. Smart on the other hand intimated that he had been there and didn't want to go back again unless the Commissariat was entrusted to Messrs F. & F."

Several of the members' guests sang but no professional musicians were present. Dr. Wallace moved that at Town meetings there should be at least a piano and an accompanist. Dr. Stewart of Kirkintilloch moved that at all Country meetings at least four pipers should be present. Neither motion was put to the vote. At the 1885 summer dinner on 25th June, after the arrival of the 1.30 p.m. train from Glasgow, the members drove from Aberfoyle to the head of Loch Ard. The weather being everything that could be desired, all agreed that Loch Ard could not have appeared to better advantage. Twenty-seven members and two guests dined in the hall of the Aberfoyle Inn (Plate 31) and returned by train, leaving for Glasgow at 6.45 p.m. The account for this dinner, addressed to the Secretary, Professor McCall Anderson, from Ferguson & Forrester included the usual charge

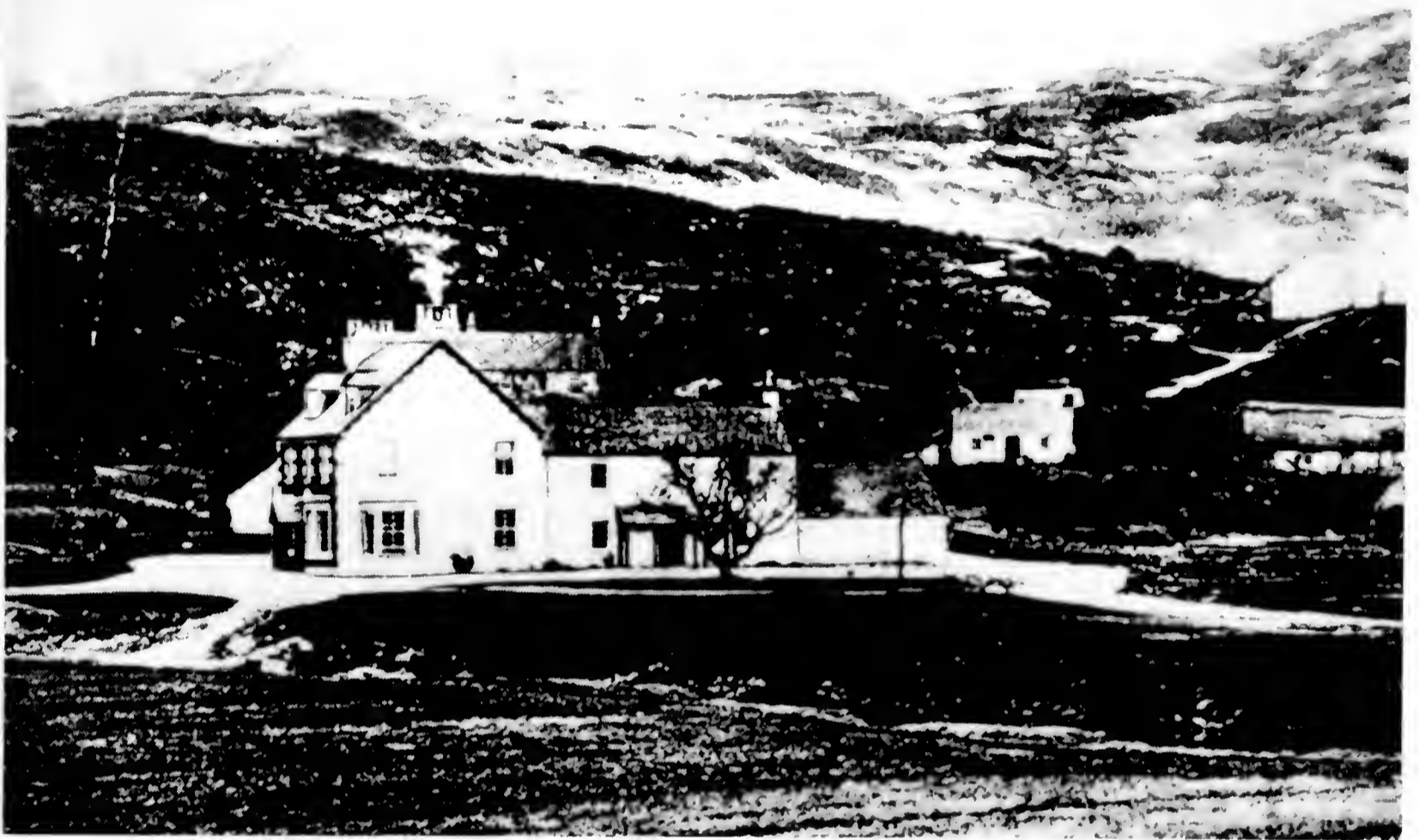


Plate 31

Old Aberfoyle Inn

Later re-named the *Bailie Nicol Jarvie*, this was the venue for the Club's summer dinner on 25th June 1885. Contemporary photograph.



Plate 32

Buchanan Street Railway Station

The departure point for many of the Club's summer dinners.
Photograph c. 1880s.

of 25/- per head and also £2.2.6d. for cash paid for driving from Aberfoyle station to Loch Ard and back again. There is another account, dated the day of the dinner, from James Mutter of 98 West George Street, Glasgow. This was for cigars, ordered by Dr. Hector Cameron to be delivered to Professor McCall Anderson by the 1.30 p.m. train from Buchanan Street station (Plate 32) to Aberfoyle: two (50) boxes Villary Villar Cigars, Rothschilds Flor Finacolcharo - 100 Cigars at 72/-.

1886-1889

"The winter dinner of 1886 was held in the Faculty Hall on 28th January and Messrs Ferguson & Forrester served it in their normal sumptuous style. The entertainment was given by two professional singers and performances on the violin by the eminent young artiste, Miss Carpenter, daughter of an esteemed physician in New York. Drs Coats, Fergus and Wallace also sang some songs".

The summer dinner of 24th June 1886 was held on the P.S. *Shandon* (Plate 33), which was hired "for sole use" of the Club for £15.00 and left Craigendoran Pier at 2.15 p.m. Dr. Douglas Reid arranged for the members to visit the training ship *Cumberland* (Plate 34) at the mouth of the Gareloch. This ship was owned by the Clyde Training Ship Association, formed in 1869 as a charity for the education and training of boys who were orphaned, poverty stricken or neglected by their parents, and most of whom had been in the hands of the police. One of the rules of this training ship was that "corporal punishment should not exceed 18 stripes".

The *Cumberland*, the first ship of the Association, was the thirteenth warship of the Royal Navy of the same name (Lecky, 1913-14). She was originally a 70-gun ship, launched at Chatham in 1842, of 2,214 tons and a crew of 620 men. During the Crimean War she proceeded to the Baltic in March 1854 to join the Anglo-French fleet, and took part in the shelling of the Russian town of Bombersund (Plate 35). French marines were landed and the Russian General Bodisco capitulated, with more than 2,000 Russian prisoners taken.

The *Shandon* (having visited the *Cumberland*) then crossed to Princes Pier, Greenock to pick up the members who had come down from Glasgow by the 3.05 p.m. train. "The steamer then sailed up Loch Long, rain descended in torrents until 5 o'clock, when the sun shone out brightly, which, combined with the excellent repast provided by the usual caterers, put the members in the best of spirits - so much so that the loch never appeared to them so beautiful and so full of interest".

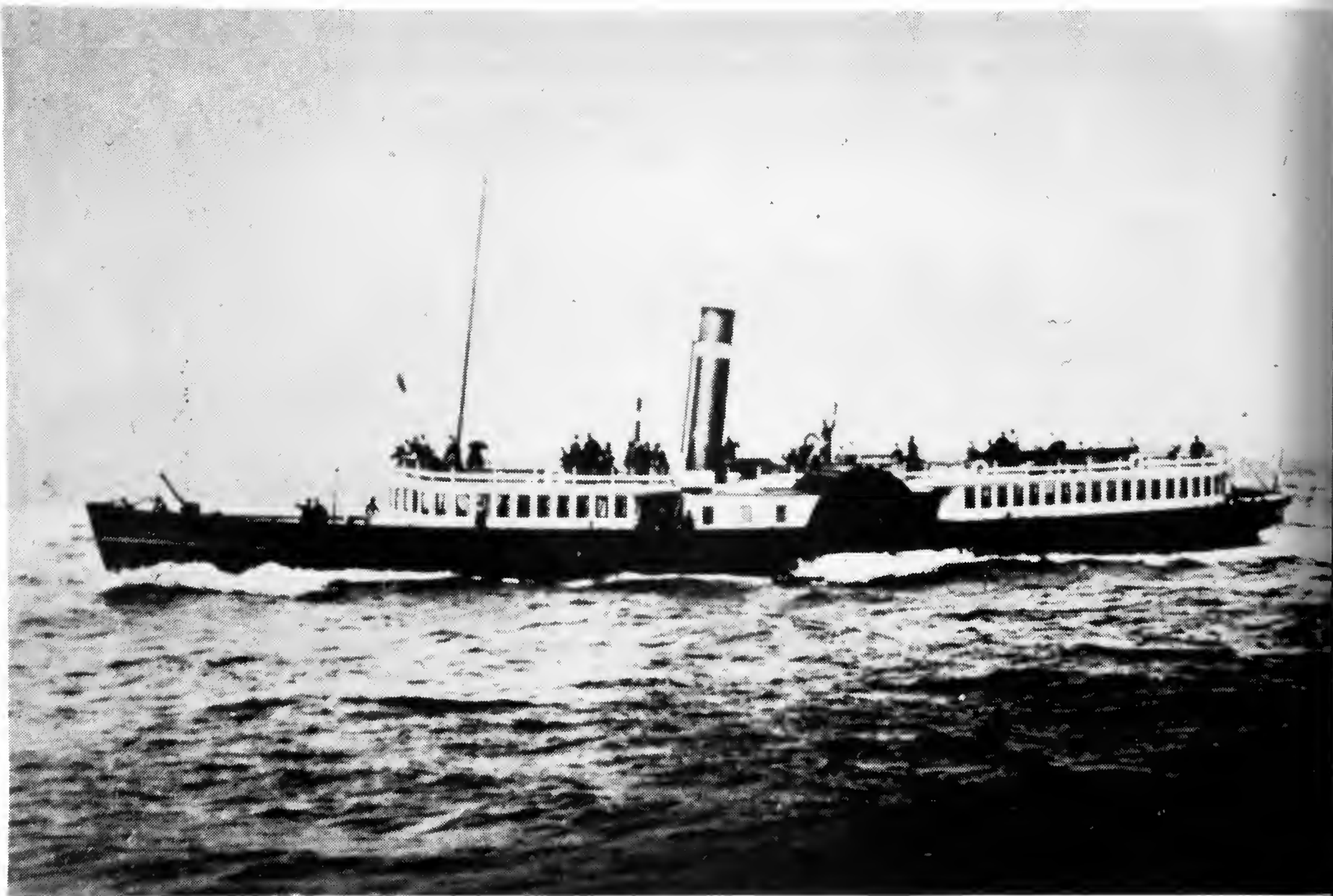


Plate 33

P.S. Shandon on Clyde

Venue for the Club's summer dinners of 1882 and 1886.

An elegant steamer, clearly with splendid saloon dining accommodation, and a far cry from the exposed conditions on board the *Balmoral* in 1871.

From now on, Clyde and Loch Lomond sailing became equally popular with the members of the Club.



Plate 34

Training Ship *Cumberland*

**Plate 35****Shelling of Bommersund**

During the Crimean War the *Cumberland* took part in the shelling of the Russian town of Bommersund. For details, see text. The *Cumberland* is one of the three ships on the extreme left. Contemporary print, c. 1854.

Dr. A. Freeland Fergus (Gibson, 1983: 110-112) was elected a member of the Club at this dinner and Dr. Adam Gilmour, of Duntocher, was elected Vice-Chairman for the winter dinner. Dr. Gilmour started practice in Duntocher in 1868 and also practised in Dalmuir from 1886, when Clydebank became a Police Burgh. Dr. Adam Gilmour joined the Club in 1872, his son John joined in 1898, and over the years four other members of this practice subsequently joined the Club; Dr. Alan Wade of the same practice is a member at the present day.

The new member elected that day was a son of Dr. Andrew Fergus, who had joined the Club in 1869. Dr. A. Freeland Fergus's brother, Dr. John Freeland Fergus (Gibson, 1983: 230-233), became a member in 1890. All three, the father and both sons, became Presidents of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons.

Many excellent songs were sung after dinner and "the stories, all of which were true, were so numerous and so good that Dr. Mather was requested, and agreed, to draw up a report of them for presentation at the next meeting of the Club". Unfortunately, this report cannot be found amongst the Club's records.

The minutes of the 1887 winter dinner record that "Dr. Gilmour of Duntocher, the Vice-Chairman, was unavoidably absent, but that Dr. Reid, the Chairman, exerted himself to repair as far as possible, this deficiency. His Toast of the Western Medical Club in particular, was in his best style and it was generally admitted that he had imparted to this oft repeated tale, an originality well worthy of imitation in the future".

"The consideration of the place of meeting in the ensuing summer led to the usual divergence of opinion but when the Chairman suggested that the Club should assemble on Cochno Loch it was at once felt that there was nothing further to be said". Dr. Adam Gilmour, who resided in Duntocher, was elected Chairman of the summer dinner. The suggestion of Cochno Loch as the venue of this dinner was entirely facetious, for this loch in the Kilpatrick Hills behind Duntocher is about a quarter of a mile long and 150 yards wide at most. The only boat which ever divided its waters would be a rowing boat of the local angling club. Its waters supplied the needs of the local villages of Hardgate and Duntocher. "The whole matter was therefore referred to the Committee, on the distinct understanding, however, that this was the last time that such delegation to the Committee would be permitted".

"Various opinions were expressed as to the arrangements that had been made for this meeting in 1887 in the Faculty Hall. Dr. Macleod was not sure that dining at separate tables was an improvement. Dr. Mather thought it was. Dr. Lennox

thought that the dinner was the best Club dinner he had ever partaken of, while his neighbour demurred to that opinion. Dr. Yellowlees thought that the cigars were rather green; another gentleman thought that they were too mild, and a third that they were too strong. One gentleman thought that there was too little music and singing, another that there was too much; one that there was too little dinner and too little variety, another that there was too much, and thus the evening passed pleasantly away, leaving the Committee in possession of a mass of valuable information, which was calculated to make their arrangements for the further comfort of the members a very simple matter indeed".

Eventually, twenty-five members and four guests sat down to dinner on the P.S. *Prince of Wales* on 30th June 1887, having left Balloch pier at 3.00 p.m. Due to the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, Dr. Adam Gilmour, Dr. Douglas Reid was in the Chair and Dr. Hector C. Cameron was Vice-Chairman.

"The weather was all that the most exacting could desire as they steamed up to the head of the loch. It was a source of great regret to the members that Dr. Gilmour, the Chairman, could not attend because he was marrying his niece - to another fellow - and that Dr. Mather, who generally enlivens us with his presence and, especially in the midst of the beautiful scenery of the loch, delights us with his eloquence, wrote saying that he had married a wife and could not come. It was the general opinion that this was the most enjoyable, as it was the largest summer meeting which the Club has had for a long time. There was but one circumstance which had a somewhat sobering influence upon the gentlemen present namely that Her Majesty was so impressed with the importance of the Western Medical Club and with the untold benefits which it had conferred upon suffering humanity that she had conferred the honour of Knighthood upon one of its most distinguished members". This was almost certainly Sir George Macleod, who followed Joseph Lister as Regius Professor of Surgery at the University in 1869.

"Twenty-nine members and seven guests dined together at the Faculty Hall on 26th January 1888 and gave further evidence of that good fellowship and good humour, which never forsakes them at meal times. Although bad times have so long cast a gloom over the city, it must be admitted that there was no evidence of this either in regard to the quantity or quality of the viands, or in the countenances of the members, whose 'begone dull care' expression was reflected in every feature. The discussion of the place of meeting this summer elicited the same harmony and unanimity as in former years, and it having been intimated that Ayrshire must be the scene of operations, it was suggested that a suitable town was Paisley and all the more as it is not included in the proposed extension of the municipal boundaries of Glasgow. The town of Ayr, however, having been pitted against

Paisley, the former carried the day. Upon this decision becoming known on the Exchange, there was an immediate rise in the price of Glasgow and South Western Stock", i.e. the Glasgow and South-Western Railway.

"The summer dinner of 1888 was held at the Station Hotel in Ayr. The majority of the members travelled in a saloon carriage attached to the 2.15 p.m. express from St. Enoch Station (Plate 36). The weather being somewhat threatening, the propriety of going to Burns' Monument, instead of to Old Dunure Castle, as previously arranged, was discussed, but when it became known that Mr. George White of Dunure had generously provided refreshments for the members, it was at once decided that it was in consonance alike with their duty and their pleasure to go there. The short time at their disposal was, for the most part, spent in Mr. White's dining room, where some of the members were so much interested in the pictures which adorned the walls that they had no time to partake of the luncheon, while others were so much taken up with the luncheon that they had no time to admire the pictures".

"As the clouds cleared away shortly after starting, the drive was most enjoyable: everyone was delighted with the old castle and the seaview at Dunure and those who returned by Burns' Monument could not help but feel that Dr. Mather's Tam O'Shanter bonnet was thoroughly in harmony with its surroundings. The dinner was of a most recherché character and reflected great credit on the manager. The water of Ayr was much appreciated, but some of the members had the bad taste to insinuate that the champagne was preferable, though what their verdict was on the following morning will never be recorded, such is the reticence of the members of the Western Medical Club".

1889-1891

The 1889 winter dinner was held on 31st January, for the first time in the Grand Hotel at Charing Cross. This hotel at that time was owned by Ferguson & Forrester, the caterers who usually supplied the Club's winter dinner. It states in the minutes "The accommodation provided was everything that could be desired but there was a feeling of regret upon the part of some of the members, that the connection which had existed between the Faculty and the Club from the day of its foundation, should have been severed". For the previous twenty-three years, with the exception of 1873 when it was held in McKain's Hotel, St. Vincent Street, the winter dinner had been held in the Faculty Hall.

The Council of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow met on 13th September 1888, and at that meeting "It was agreed that a joint meeting of the



Plate 36

Railway Bridge over River Clyde from St. Enoch Station

Train leaving for Ayr. This was the departure point for the Club's many Ayrshire dinners.

Council and the Financial Committee should be held to consider measures anent the arrangements for Societies meeting in the Hall". A conjoint meeting of the Council and Finance Committee of the Faculty was held on 19th September, and one paragraph of the minutes of that meeting reads: "The meeting resolved that the use of the large Hall should not be granted for dining purposes to any Society and that intimation to that effect be sent to the Western Medical Club which has hitherto dined in it" (see Note 15).

"The 1889 winter dinner, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Finlayson, was served at 6 o'clock. The proceedings were enlivened by excellent music provided at the expense of the Chairman, and after dinner by the usual discussion on the venue for the summer dinner".

"Dr. Stewart objected to the suggestion that the Club should go to Ayr because, owing to the train arrangements, he did not get his dinner the last time the venue had been in Ayr and hadn't had the pleasure of balloting. Various other places were suggested, the Clyde, Bridge of Allan and Aberfoyle, amongst them. Dr. Cameron demurred to the proposal of Aberfoyle, owing to the painful associations connected with our last visit there; for a gentleman residing in the hotel where the Club dinner was held, supposed that Dr. Yellowlees, the Medical Superintendent of Gartnavel Royal Mental Hospital, had come out with some of his patients and was surprised at their good behaviour. He thought, therefore, that some time should be allowed to elapse before returning, or if, not, that Dr. Yellowlees should be requested to be conspicuous by his absence. Dr. Yellowlees objected but, on Dr. Lawrence proposing that the next meeting should be held at Gartnavel he at once agreed, because, amongst other reasons, the eccentricities of the members would not be remarked upon there. After a lively discussion and to the surprise of everyone, the Club departed from its usual procedure and left the matter in the hands of the Committee".

Excellent songs and recitations were the order of the evening and the cigars remaining over from the previous meeting were 'doled out', after which the members were thrown on their own resources for the Treasurer had put down his foot and insisted that the funds at his disposal should no longer be frittered away and consumed in smoke. At this decision being announced, Dr. Mather was indignant and looked very unhappy but relieved his feelings by his much acclaimed recitation of *The Haggis*.

Twenty-six members and five guests attended the summer dinner on 27th June 1889, in the George Hotel (Plate 37) at Kilmarnock. The majority travelled by the 2.00 p.m. train from Glasgow in an attached saloon carriage. They then drove to



Plate 37

George Hotel, Kilmarnock

Received bill for the Club's summer dinner on 27th June 1889.

Craig, where they had afternoon tea, walked about the grounds and returned for dinner in Kilmarnock. "The weather was everything that could be desired but some of the members regretted that the day of the meeting had been changed from the last Friday in July as then the gooseberries would have been ripe". The drive mentioned above was in four waggonettes, each with a pair of horses, hired from the firm of David Aird, Jobmasters, Funeral and Carriage Hirer, at Livery Stables, Langlands Brae, Kilmarnock, and cost £3.00 in total. Thirty-one members were carried in these carriages.

"After dinner, the toasts of 'The Queen' and 'The Club' were given by the Chairman Dr. J.R. Watt of Ayr, in his most felicitous style and these were followed by a running fire of impromptu speeches which well illustrated the eloquence for which the members have so long been famous and which took the guests altogether by surprise, more particularly, those whose healths were proposed. The pleasure of the meeting was much enhanced owing to the Treasurer having departed from the rule laid down at the previous meeting and having tabled a box of fragrant Havanas. The grace of this cornucopia was much appreciated, coming as it did from one who is such a staunch supporter of the anti-tobacconists".

The next winter dinner was held in the Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, Glasgow on 30th January 1890. The Chairman was Dr. Gavin P. Tennent, and the Vice-Chairman was Dr. T.G.F. Messer, Helensburgh. Forty-seven gentlemen attended the dinner.

The consideration of the place of meeting in the ensuing summer having been broached, one of the members politely but firmly intimated that it was all nonsense to leave this matter in the hands of the Committee, and that the members should fix definitely where the dinner is to be held, a deliverance which was much applauded. Dr. Brodie was in favour of Loch Lomond. Dr. Goff was tired of it, while Dr. Mather thought there was no place superior to it. Dr. Graham suggested Roseneath, under the shade of two silver fir trees called 'Adam and Eve'.

Dr. Mather then proposed that the members should go into the deep recesses of Loch Katrine, a view which was approved by Sir George Macleod. Dr. Leishman alluded to the fact that the Country Members could not get back to town in time to catch their last trains home, but seemed in favour of Loch Katrine, provided the members consented to return to town in a balloon. Dr. Gemmell of Dunoon thought that a place should be selected which rendered it impossible to get back to town the same evening, upon which Dr. Leishman struck up *We Won't Go Home till Morning* (see Note 16).

The next summer dinner was in fact held in the Victoria Halls, Helensburgh, with Dr. T.G.F. Messer of Helensburgh as Chairman and Dr. Joseph Coats, from Glasgow, as Vice-Chairman. Most of the members came to Helensburgh in a saloon carriage attached to the 1.25 p.m. train from Glasgow. These members were then driven up Glen Fruin in two horse-drawn waggonettes (Plates 38 and 39).

The party stopped for tea at Glenfruin school, where they were "most courteously received by 'The Professor' who ministered to the intellectual wants of the rising generation in that remote corner of Her Majesty's Dominions". "The scenery was highly appreciated and the weather all that could be desired, if we except one drenching shower such as is not altogether unknown in this region". The party returned to Helensburgh by the Gareloch in time for dinner at 5.15 p.m.

"Dr. Messer took the Chair at the dinner, supported on the right by a clerical friend and on the left by another member of the same profession, and although he exhibited his usual geniality and his guests were clergymen of the 'Right Sort', several were of the opinion that he had the appearance of being somewhat priest-ridden. Dr. Wallace brought as his guest the ever-welcome *Miller of the Dee*, while Dr. Brodie was induced to charm us by trotting out his *Pretty Jane*".

"It was generally admitted that the dinner was well up to the mark but one gentleman hinted that 'Pate de foie gras' would have enhanced the pleasure of the repast, another suggested sheep's head singed and a third: haggis. The last gentleman was doubtless appeased when Dr. Mather favoured him with Robert Burns' poem *The Haggis* after dinner. No sooner were these suggestions made, than the Secretary was given instructions to add to the usual winter menu: Pate de foie gras, Sheep's Head and Haggis. The members looked forward to this dinner with much interest, it being felt that, if they passed through the ordeal unscathed, it would be evident that the coats of their stomachs were made of adamant [Note 17] and their hepatic tissues impervious to the most violent irritation. The Secretary had, however, some doubt as to the propriety of the proceedings without making application to the Secretary of State for a special licence for experiments upon living animals without the intervention of chloroform".

1891-1892

The next winter dinner was held in the Grand Hotel, Charing Cross on 29th January 1891, with Dr. Joseph Coats in the Chair and Dr. W.S. Mackenzie as Vice-Chairman.



Plate 38

Horse-drawn Waggonette

Visit to Glen Fruin by members of the Club, in the course of
the summer dinner at Helensburgh on 26th June 1890.

In accordance with the wishes of the members expressed at the last meeting, sheep's head singed, pate de foie gras and haggis were included in the menu, and towards the close of the dinner a slip of paper was handed to the Secretary with the mysterious initials G.H.B.M. [Sir George Macleod]. On it was written "The best dinner the Club has ever had". This was far from being the universal opinion, however, for some gentlemen complained bitterly that the literal carrying-out of the instruction had seriously marred the symmetry of the repast, not to speak of the state of their digestive apparatus. It was as well for them that Dr. Mather was unable to be present, since possibly he might have had something to say in defence of *The Haggis*.

Following this mention of these unusual additions to the dinner menu, it would be very interesting to know what an average menu of the Western Medical Club contained. Unfortunately, the Club's early records contain no direct account of any of its dinner menus, which is a little surprising, but the menu at a comparable dinner, that of the Glasgow University Club on 23rd January 1899 in honour of the Principal, the Very Reverend Dr. Robert H. Story, and chaired by Lord Kelvin, is given separately on the following page (Note 18). It makes interesting reading.

This dinner was attended by several Club members, some of whom were also members of the University Senate, so it is extremely probable that the usual dinners of the Club would have been very similar in content. This meant eight or nine courses, followed by coffee, which in those days was fairly standard fare for a formal dinner.

To return to the Club dinner in the Grand Hotel in January 1891 "the usual discussion set in with regard to the place of meeting in the summer but as this was interlarded with opprobrious remarks anent black and white puddings, sheep's head, pate de foie gras and haggis, the Secretary had some difficulty in catching the drift of the speeches or recognising the aptness of the allusions. As far as he could gather, however, the balance of opinion was in favour either of a trip to the upper reaches of the Clyde or a visit to the Firth in a steamer. Those who are not good sailors did not seem to go in heartily with the latter suggestion, fearing that they might over-reach themselves".

On 25th June 1891 the Club met at Lanark station at 3.10 p.m., where carriages were in waiting to convey the members to Bothwell, visiting Stonebyres Falls en route. The day was everything that could be desired, and the drive was much enjoyed by the seventeen members who took part in it. The dinner was held in the Clyde Hotel, Bothwell. Many of the members burst forth into song, to the great delight of the others. The Secretary reported "that nothing else worthy of note

Menu

Les Appétissants

Appetisers

Potage

Tortue Claire au Gras Vert

Clear Turtle Soup with fresh Meat

Poissons

Éperlans, Sauce Tartare

Sparlings with Tartare Sauce

Turbot, Sauce Homard

Turbot with Lobster Sauce

Entrées

Suprême de Volaille aux Truffles

Supreme of Chicken with Truffles

Mauviettes en Caisse a la Richelieu

Larks in a Pastry Case

Relevés

Selle de Mouton Rôtis

Roast Saddle of Lamb

Dinde, Jambon de York

Turkey and York Ham

Rôtes

Faisan

Roast Pheasant

Becasse

Roast Woodcock

Legumes

Asperge en Branches

Fresh Asparagus Spears

Entremets

Le Pudding au Collège

College Pudding

Chartreuse Gelée

Chartreuse Jelly

Crème d'Apricots

Creamed Apricots

Tomates Farcies

Stuffed Tomatoes

Champignons

Mushrooms

Dessert

Cheese, Fruit, Nuts

Café

Coffee

occurred, probably because it was the summer dinner and therefore no discussion took place on the venue of the next summer dinner".

1892

The winter dinner of January 1892 was at a new venue, the Bath Hotel. At the previous dinner Dr. Simpson had proposed a motion with regard to the election of new members, but since he only arrived at the dinner at the same time as the oysters, his motion fell to the ground.

"As this was the first occasion on which the Club had dined at the Bath Hotel, the members were naturally very critical with regard to the delicacies put before them. On the whole, the menu, which included neither haggis, nor black or white puddings was received with favour, although Dr. Simpson after the vegetable course forwarded to the Secretary what at first appeared to be a piece of twine, but which, on closer inspection, turned out to be asparagus. Probably it had been robbed of its succulence before leaving the hands of the donor, but in any case it was thought worthy of a resting place in the museum of the Club, labelled 'The Last Straw'. Dr. J.E. Brodie, the Chairman, proposed the usual toasts of 'The Queen' and 'The Club' with brevity and with taste and gave a fine rendering of the song *You'll Remember Me*; other songs were *The Twins* given by Dr. Beatson, *The Barley Fever* and *The Reformer* given by Dr. Graham, and *The Monks of Old* given by Dr. Highet. Dr. Mather gave his well-known rendering of *The Haggis* and Mr. Baynham's recitation of *Mr. Bob Sawyer's Supper Party* was admirably rendered. The last part of this recitation was somewhat marred, however, by a highland chieftain in the street who discoursed sweet music on the bagpipes".

"On the Chairman asking for an expression of opinion as to the place of meeting in the summer, there at once arose a wholly irrelevant discussion upon the innovation of having the minutes read before dinner. The controversy was waxing fast and furious and appeared to be getting beyond all bounds, when the musicians intervened with a lively air which restored the company to its wanted good humour and then it was agreed to hold the summer dinner in Ayr".

"The Secretary reminded the members that a large gathering, though in one sense a success, was disastrous from a financial point of view because those who attended consumed more than they paid for. Dr. Mackenzie proposed that at the next winter meeting, the members should send in their annual subscriptions but not put in an appearance at the dinner. It will be interesting to observe if that gentleman will act up to his principles when the next winter meeting comes round".

At the next summer dinner, held in the Station Hotel, Ayr on 30th June 1892, Dr. T. McCall Anderson, the Secretary, who had firstly been Treasurer and then Secretary for a combined total of twenty-two years, tendered his resignation from the Secretaryship, and after much discussion and many attempts to get him to withdraw his resignation, Dr. Bruce Goff of Bothwell was unanimously elected in his place.

Dr. Goff, in the discussion following the resignation of Dr. T. McCall Anderson, stated that he thought a Town Member was more suitable to hold the Secretaryship. In reply to this, a learned professor expressed his opinion that Dr. Goff could hardly be looked upon in the exact sense of a Country Member, "since he was rather in the nature of an amphibian animal, being as much Town as Country", so after some discussion, the amphibian animal agreed to accept office and was duly elected. At the same dinner, Dr. John Goff of Bothwell was elected a Country Member; this was the new Secretary's son.

It had been intended that the members would also drive to some place of historic interest in the neighbourhood of Ayr, but owing to the considerably delayed arrival of the train from Glasgow, and the inclemency of the weather, it was decided to postpone this treat to some future occasion.

"The excellent dinner was sat down to by twenty-seven members and four guests but regret was expressed that the time allowed for its consumption was too short. The general opinion was expressed that in the future, if at all possible, three hours should be set apart for the Club dinner. After the toasts to 'The Queen' and 'The Club' had been proposed, the toast to the health of the retiring Secretary Dr. T. McCall Anderson was responded to most enthusiastically. A most enjoyable hour was spent on the journey from Ayr to the Western Metropolis".

Sir George H.B. Macleod, Joseph Lister's successor to the Regius Chair of Surgery at Glasgow University in 1869, died in 1892. The minutes note that "his commanding appearance and genial manner will be long missed in the Club".

Bruce Goff (Secretary 1892-1904)

Dr. Bruce Goff (1832-1915) was Secretary of the Club from 1892 to 1904. At the winter dinner in 1900 he suggested that he wished to resign, but was not replaced until 1904, by Dr. Alexander Napier.

Dr. Goff was born in London in 1832 and entered the medical faculty at Glasgow in 1849. Part of his training was at Edinburgh University, but he qualified

M.D. at Glasgow in 1853. He was house-physician for a year or two in the Royal Infirmary and also worked in Paris for some time, before settling for forty-five years of medical practice in Bothwell. He joined the Lanarkshire Rifle Volunteers as a Medical Officer in 1859, and retired as an Honorary Colonel in the R.A.M.C. (Territorial Forces). He followed Sir William T. Gairdner as President of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Branch of the B.M.A. in 1880. He was on the Council of the B.M.A. (U.K.) from 1884 to 1908, and was President of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow from 1894 to 1897 (Anon., 1915). He had four sons, and three were doctors, of whom Bruce practised in London and John in Bothwell.

1893-1894

The winter dinner of 1893 was held in the Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, which was under new management, so the members were inclined to be critical, but it was the unanimous opinion that the menu was good and well carried out both as regards cooking and waiting. After dinner, there arose the usual discussion as to the selection of a place of meeting in the summer. Many and various were the proposals, such as Ayrshire, Loch Lomond, Aberfoyle, Loch Katrine, and the Secretary stated "I believe one member really had the foolhardiness to propose Gartnavel". It was eventually left to the Committee to decide.

A guest of the Chairman, Dr. H. Robinson, caused great pleasure and amusement by his songs, with banjo accompaniment. The Chairman was of the opinion that the absence of professionals brought out talent which one was not aware existed to so large an extent in the Club.

The minutes of the summer dinner of 1893 read as follows: Royal Hotel, Stirling, 29th June 1893:

"In the first instance the Club met at Stirling railway station on the arrival of the 2.00 p.m. train from Glasgow, where carriages were in waiting for the use of the members. The day being fine, a most enjoyable drive was taken from Stirling, through the Bridge of Allan and on through Dunblane and back through the Glen of the 'Wharrie Burn' to Philp's Royal Hotel at Bridge of Allan, where the members partook of the 'cup that cheers but does not inebriate', after which they proceeded to Stirling, arriving at the Royal Hotel about 5.30 p.m. when the business meeting of the Club took place, at which Dr. Alexander Napier of Crosshill was elected Vice-Chairman for the winter meeting and Dr. J.B. Russell becoming Chairman according to the rules of the Club. Dr. Thomas Kennedy Dalziel was elected an ordinary member and Dr. George Buchanan an Honorary Member".

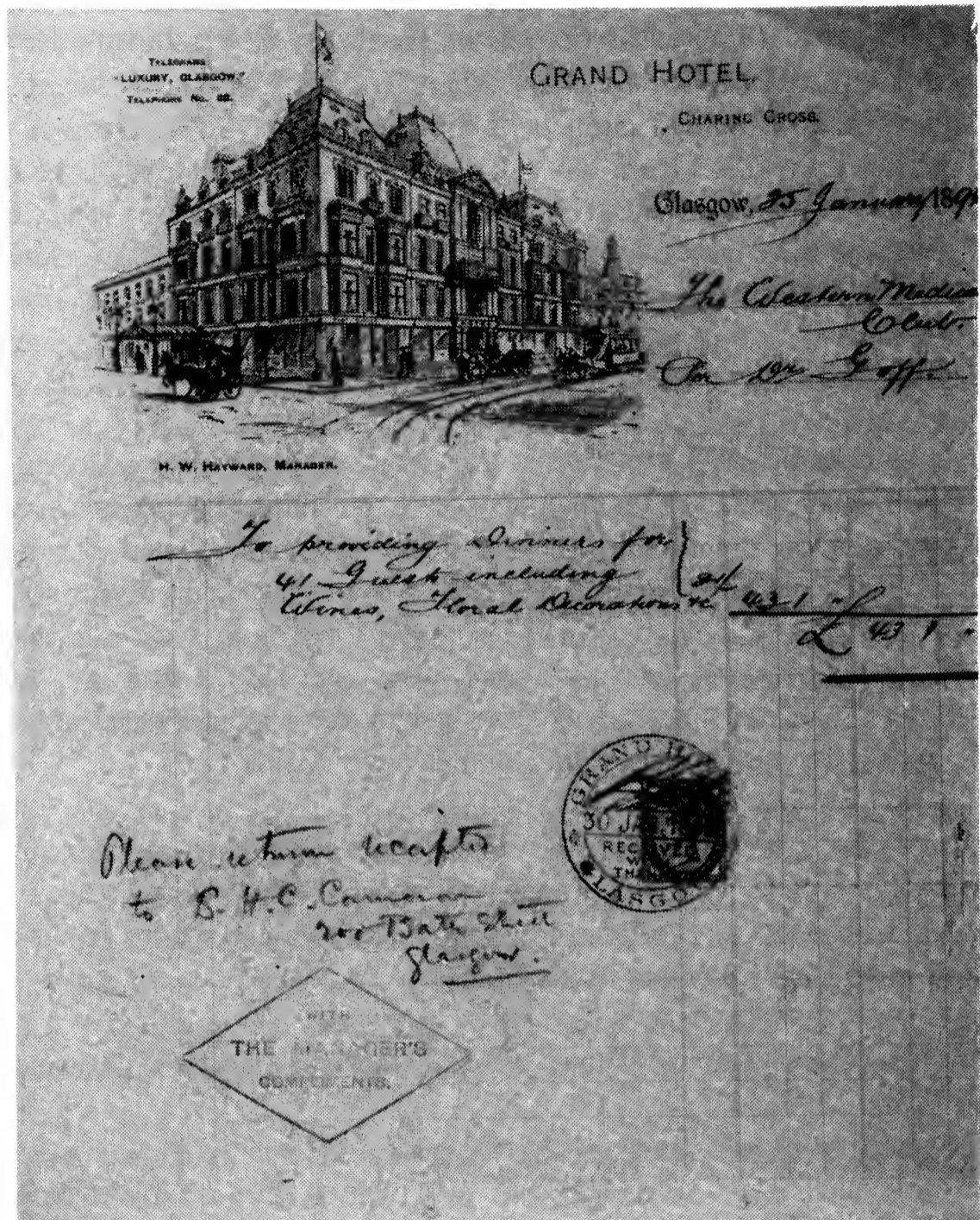


Plate 40

Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, Glasgow

Receipted bill for the Club's winter dinner on 25th January 1894.

"Dinner was served at 6.00 p.m. and twenty-seven members, twelve Town and twelve Country Members and three guests, sat down. Dr. Yellowlees being Chairman and Dr. J.B. Russell, Vice-Chairman. After partaking of a most excellent dinner, one of the principal features of which was the frequency and rapidity with which the champagne was circulated. The members returned to Glasgow by the 8.30 p.m. train, the journey being shortened owing to the wit and general good humour that prevailed - thus ending one of the most enjoyable meetings the Club has had for some years".

Thirty-seven members and four guests sat down to dinner in the Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, in January 1894. The Secretary announced that there were four vacancies for Town Members and none for Country Members, with several waiting for election. The receipt for this dinner, for forty-one attending, including wines etc., came to a total of £43.1/- (Plate 40). The dinner in the Royal College a century later, also including wines, cost members or guests £43.00 each.

It was suggested by several members, and ultimately put in the form of a motion, "that at each meeting the Secretary be required to read some of the older minutes of the Club, that the members might be reminded of the doings of their old friends and associates". This was carried, and the Secretary then read the minutes of the Inaugural Dinner held on 25th July 1845. Many of the names in the *sedes* were quite familiar to some of the older members.

The venue of the summer meeting was discussed, and some place on the new West Highland Railway found most favour. "Dr. Napier, the Chairman-elect for the summer dinner, who practised in Crosshill, suggested Crosshill as a favourable locality. After much discussion, it was referred to the Committee". The Chairman proposed 'The Queen' and in proposing 'The Club' gave a most interesting account of the many clubs which had previously existed in Glasgow and some which still did. This was followed by many songs and a recitation, and then terminated with the singing of *Auld Lang Syne* at about 10.20 p.m.

The summer dinner of 1894 was held in the Royal Hotel, Inellan on 28th June, the members having come there by rail and steamer via Gourock. Before dinner, since it was a magnificent summer afternoon, most of the members strolled outside and enjoyed the beautiful scenery of the Clyde, so well seen from the grounds of the hotel. "After dinner, the weather being warm, most of the members adjourned to the verandah to enjoy the soothing influence of nicotine for only too short a time before the boat left for Gourock at twenty minutes to eight".

1895-1896

The Grand Hotel at Charing Cross was again the venue for the winter dinner in 1895. Dr. A. Wood Smith was Chairman, and the Croupier was Dr. W.R. Watson. Dr. J.G. Beatson was elected Vice-Chairman for the next dinner. Amongst the new members elected were Donald J. McIntosh, Medical Superintendent of the Western Infirmary, Robert Henry Parry, and James H. Nicol, plus three Country Members: Frederick H. Clarke, Dumfries; Lewis D. Alexander, Kilcreggan; and David Sloan, Catrine.

On proposing the toast of 'The Western Medical Club', the Chairman took the occasion to mention that the summer dinner this year would complete the 50th year of the existence of the Club, it having been founded in July 1845 by many eminent men of the medical profession of their day, including the fathers of several of the present members. Drs Napier, Beatson and John Goff entertained the members with songs during the evening.

The Jubilee Dinner was held at the Tarbet Hotel, Loch Lomond, on 27th June 1895. There were eighteen Town and sixteen Country Members present, with fourteen guests. The party arrived at Tarbet at 4.30 p.m., having travelled from Glasgow by special train (Plate 41). The day was fine, and the scenery along the new West Highland Railway (see Note 19) was seen to best advantage. Dr. W.R. Watson was Chairman and Dr. J.G. Beatson was Vice-Chairman. "After dinner, the evening being fine, the members and guests betook themselves to the grounds of the hotel, to enjoy the fine air and scenery of the location". They returned by the special train at 8.30 and reached Glasgow at 10.15 p.m.

The next winter dinner was held at the North British Station Hotel, George Square, Glasgow, with Dr. Beatson in the Chair. Several of the older members sat down with a little anxiety, this being the first occasion on which the Club had dined in the North British Hotel (Plate 42). Their anxiety was soon relieved by the dinner being well cooked and as well served. Dr. Samson Gemmell was elected Vice-Chairman for the next summer dinner. The Chairman, Dr. Beatson, later Sir George Thomas Beatson, was mainly responsible for the foundation of the St. Andrew's Ambulance Association in 1882. He was commemorated in Glasgow in the name of the cancer hospital in Garnethill, known as the Beatson Hospital, where considerable research into cancer took place over many years and still does. There is also a Beatson Oncology Department in the Western Infirmary.

The Chairman of the summer dinner held on 25th June 1896, Dr. Haldane, was waiting for the Club members at Bridge of Allan station when the 2.00 p.m. train



Plate 41

50th Anniversary Dinner

Type of engine used to pull special train for Jubilee Dinner
at Tarbet, Loch Lomond, on 27th June 1895.

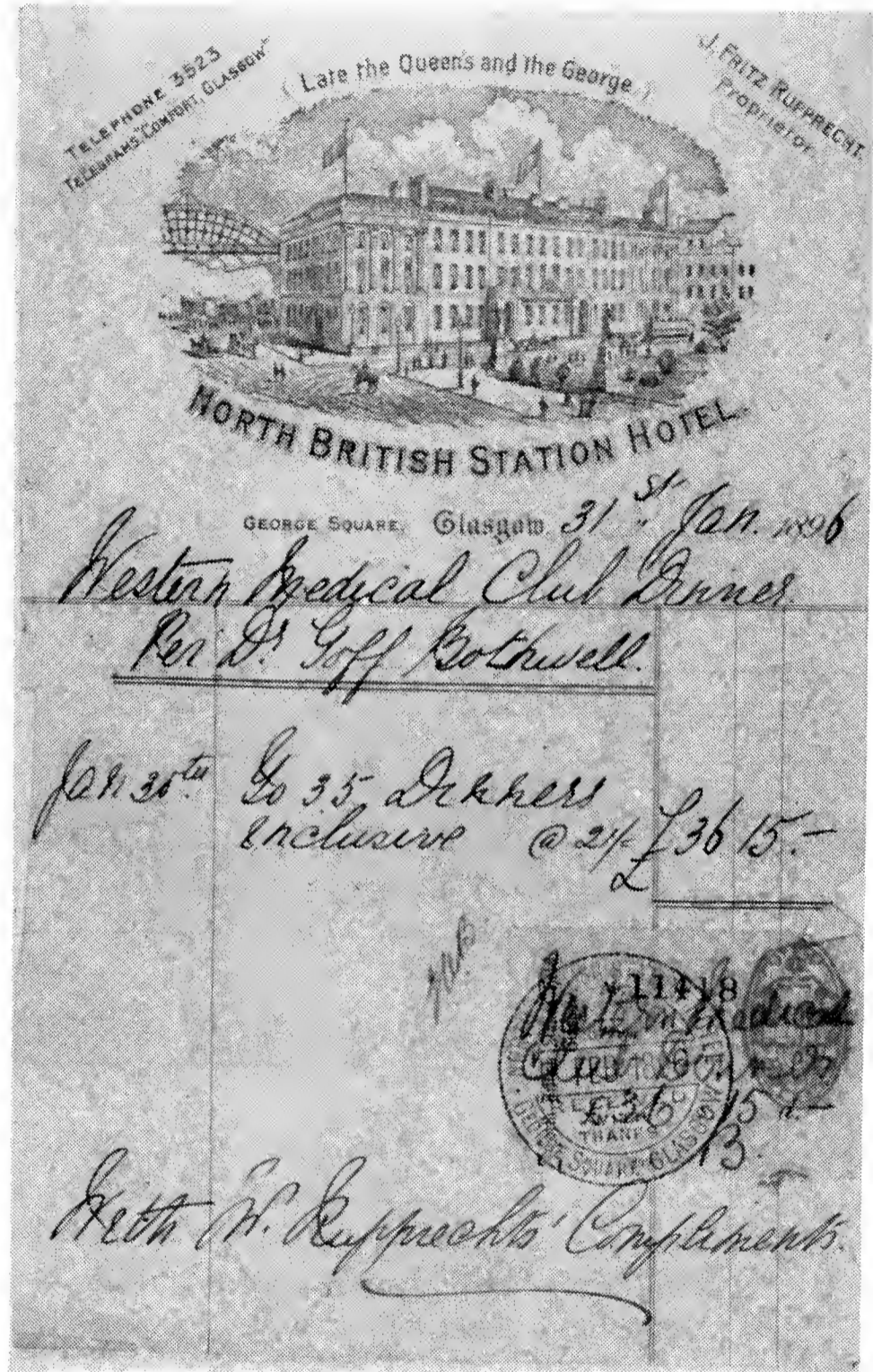


Plate 42

North British Hotel, Glasgow

Received bill for the Club's winter dinner on 30th January 1896.

arrived from the Caledonian Railway station, Buchanan Street, Glasgow. The members then drove to the pump room of the mineral wells. Having inspected the source, they were treated to tumblers of the water, the virtues of which were greatly extolled by our worthy Chairman. "There were differences of opinion as to the agreeableness of the flavour of the water, which differences were sunk in the adjoining apartments, by all agreeing that the cup of tea which was there provided for them being most excellent and refreshing". Having inspected the baths, the members then drove through the most beautiful grounds of Airthrey Castle. Airthrey Castle became the maternity hospital for the Burgh of Clydebank from 14th March 1941, the second day of the Blitz, until well into the 1950s.

A halt was made on the way to Bridge of Allan at the house "of our well known Dr. Paterson, where we were invited to inspect his orchids and the numerous relics and curios which he has gathered together during a long life. These were of a most interesting and varied description. One that interested many of our profession was a piece of skin (tanned) of the notorious Burke" (see Note 20). After unwillingly leaving this storehouse of valuable curiosities, the Club met in Philp's Royal Hotel, Bridge of Allan, at 5.00 p.m., where they were joined by a contingent from Glasgow. Twenty-two sat down to dinner (Plate 43) at 5.30 p.m., under the Chairmanship of Dr. W. Haldane.

"The two usual toasts were proposed by the Chairman after dinner. He then made an innovation by proposing the health of the Prince and Princess of Wales. This gave rise to considerable discussion. It was, however, ultimately agreed not to reprimand the Chairman, in consideration that it is not every year that the heir to the throne wins the Derby. Dr. Wallace, in capital voice, rendered *The Miller of the Dee* in his usual style and Dr. Napier favoured us with *The Lark now Leaves his Watery Nest*, which was greatly appreciated. The Club returned to Glasgow by the 8.22 train". (For songs, see Appendix 4).

1897-1898

Dr. Samson Gemmell took the Chair at the winter dinner held on 28th January 1897 in the Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, Glasgow. Dr. Fraser, the Chairman for the next dinner, had to leave early that evening, and after discussion, the general feeling seemed to be that the summer dinner be held on a steamer on the Clyde, with Dr. Fraser's agreement. There being a paucity of musical talent, and the room being exceedingly cold, an early adjournment took place.

In spite of the above suggestion, the Club actually met on 25th June 1897 at Paisley, most members arriving by the 2.00 p.m. train from Glasgow. "Carriages



Plate 43

Philp's Royal Hotel, Bridge of Allan

Received bill for the Club's summer dinner on 25th June 1896.

which were in waiting" conveyed the members to the public park to view the statue of Robert Burns which had recently been erected there and "were much gratified with the appearance of that admirable work of art".

The members then drove to the Gleniffer Braes, passing the old Peesweep Inn, and ultimately arrived near the summit of Corkindale Law, one of the highest points of the Gleniffer Braes. "After a walk of about quarter of a mile the summit was reached, from which one could well conceive the extensive view that could, on a clear day, be obtained. The day, however, although fine, was not clear, and although a considerable distance could be seen on every side, the widest extent of the view could not be obtained, with the coast of Ireland and other distant objects being obscured".

Returning from the Law, the members were driven to 'The Glen', the property of Mr. James Fulton. Here they were kindly invited to partake of afternoon tea, and were received in the most courteous manner by the various members of the household. After tea, they were conducted by the proprietor through a portion of the romantic glen in which the house was situated, and from which a beautiful view of the surrounding country could be obtained. Mr. James Fulton owned the Glenfield Factory nearby, which was described in the Trade Directory of that time as 'Scourers dyers and finishers'.

The Club (of which were present thirteen Town Members, sixteen Country Members and five guests) then returned to the George A. Clark Town Hall, Paisley, where the dinner was held. The records of the Club contain an account (Plate 44) addressed to Dr. Donald Fraser, the Chairman that day, from the Curator of the Hall for £1.2s.6d., being detailed as Gent's Chorus [this was the name of the room used for dining] 15/-, one Cloakroom 5/-, and one Cloakroom Attendant 2/6d. The dinner was purveyed by Mr. A. Wood's Cross Restaurant, 6 High Street, Paisley at 21/- per head. A third account was from William Young, Carriage Hirers of 2 County Place and Canal Station (Stables at 36 Causeyside Street and 43 Gordon's Lane) for "3 Waggonettes and pairs, to Corkindale, Shelford and the Glen etc" (Plate 45). After the dinner many songs were sung by members and guests.

The winter dinner of 1898 was held at 36 Buchanan Street, Glasgow, the head office of the caterers Ferguson & Forrester, which contained the Prince of Wales restaurant. Dr. David Newman was Chairman and Dr. John R. Black of Greenock was Vice-Chairman. Dr. J. Crawford Renton was appointed Vice-Chairman for the summer dinner. Dr. Joseph Coats, Dr. John Gilmour, and Dr. Thomas W. Jenkins were elected members of the Club. During the assembling of the members

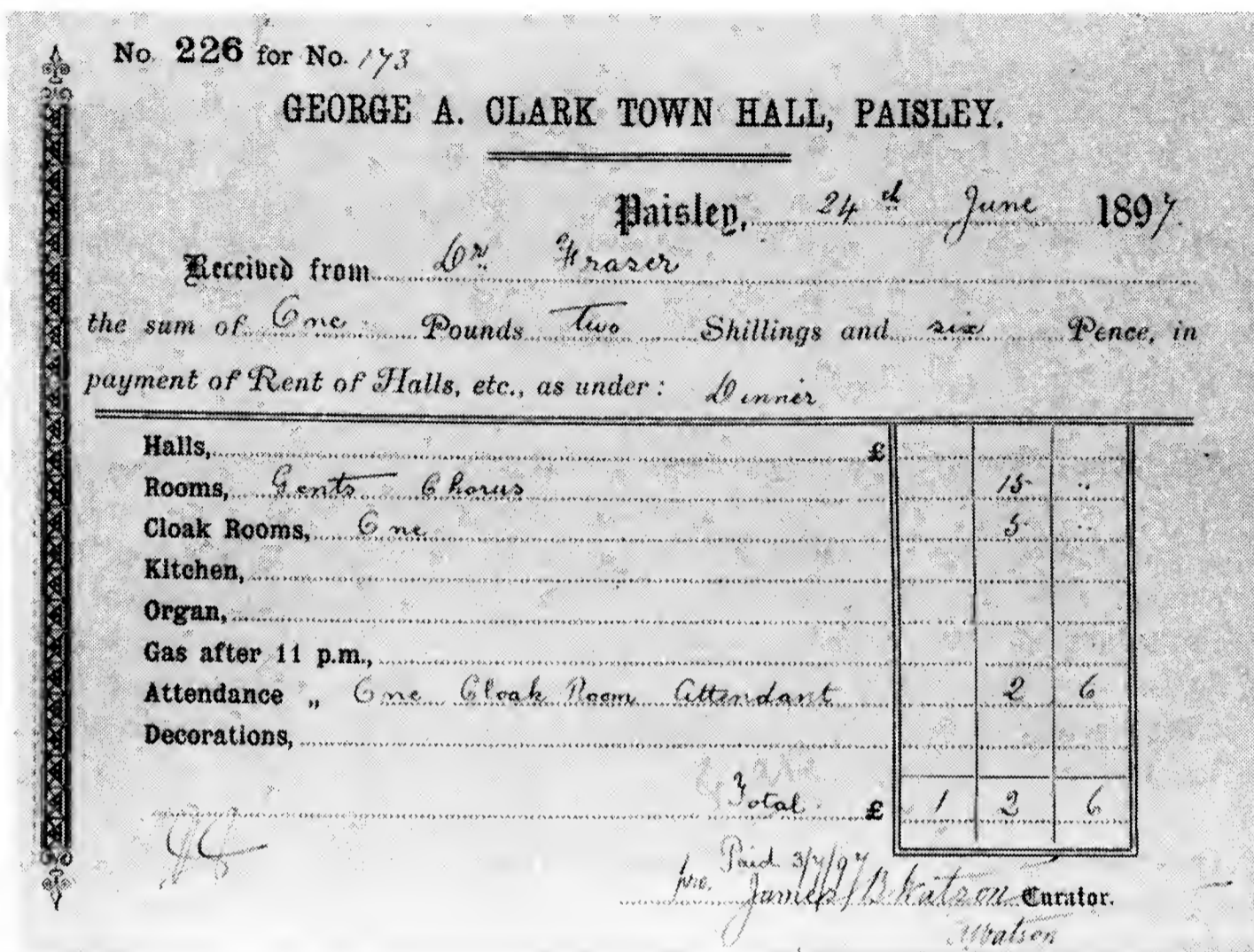


Plate 44

George A. Clark Town Hall, Paisley

Received bill for accommodation at the Club's summer dinner on 24th June 1897. The term 'Gent's Chorus' actually means a room - the Gent's Chorus Room (still called this today), and was not for the services of a 'glee company', sometimes hired for Club dinners.



Plate 45

Receipt for Waggonette Transport

Drive over the Gleniffer Braes to Corkindale Law, in the course of the summer dinner at Paisley on 24th June 1897.

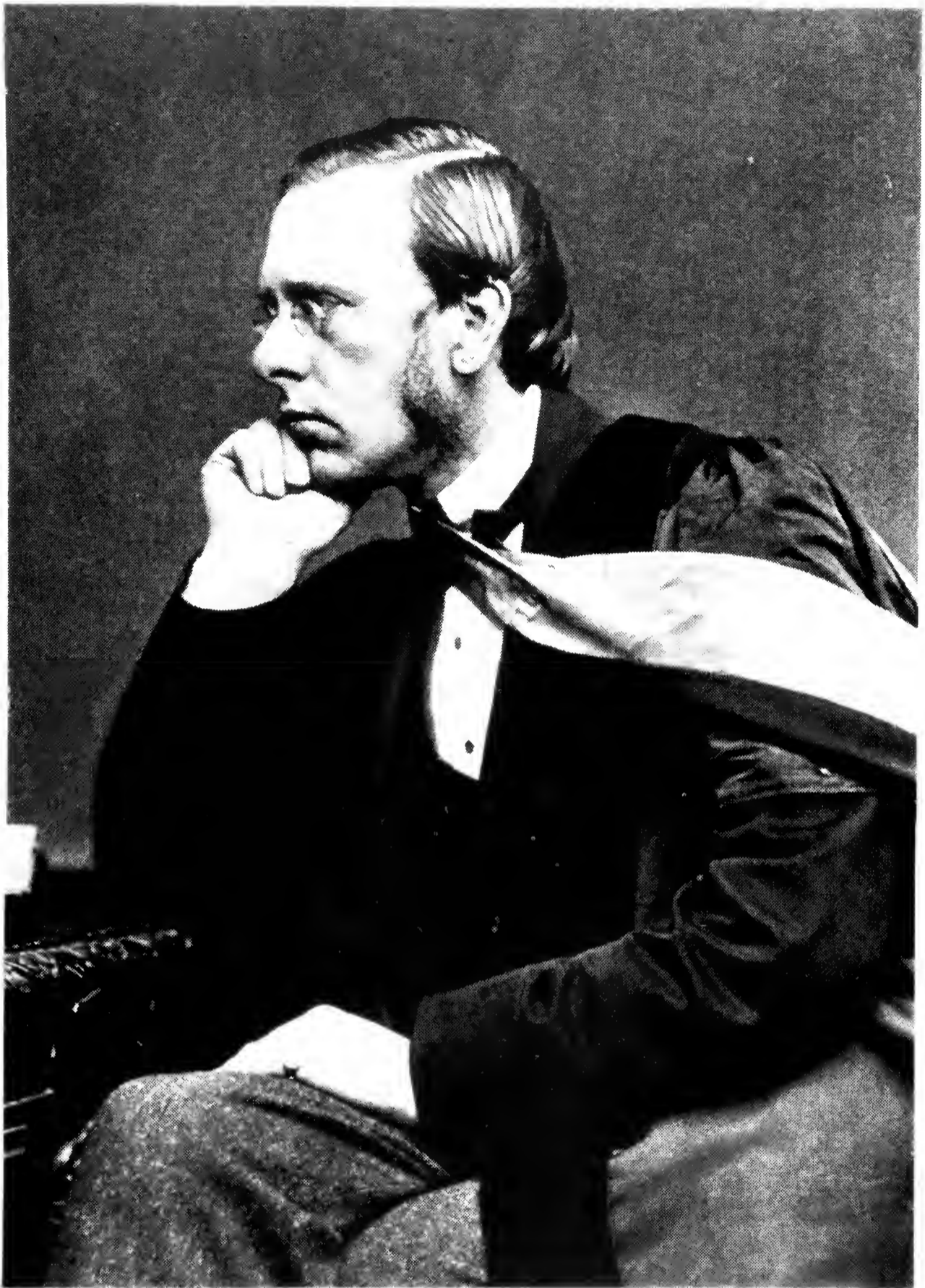


Plate 46

William Tennant Gairdner

before dinner, Sir William Tennant Gairdner (Plate 46) made his appearance at the Club for the first time since receiving his Knighthood, and received quite an ovation.

"After dinner and after the two normal toasts had been drunk, Dr. Finlayson in most appropriate terms proposed the health of Sir William Gairdner, which was received in a most enthusiastic manner, each member of the Club endeavouring to outvie his neighbours in doing honour to one who it is safe to say is beloved by every member of the Club and it is perfectly certain had the Club been asked to give an opinion as to whom in the West of Scotland was most deserving of this high honour, the unanimous answer would have been Sir William Tennant Gairdner". Several members then gave brief reminiscences of their early connection with the new Knight, in the most endearing terms. "Sir William then returned thanks in a most interesting speech, in which he stated that he would have been quite content to have lived and died as Professor Gairdner, but he owed it to his profession and his Queen to accept an honour which came almost as a command".

Dr. Robert Perry, being present for the first time since his election as an Honorary Member, thanked the members for the honour they had done him. At the same time, he reminded the Club that his father, also Dr. Robert Perry (see Plate 18), had been Chairman at the first dinner of the Club held 53 years ago in the Faculty Hall in St. Enoch Square. In actual fact, Dr. A.D. Anderson (Gibson, 1983: 70-72) chaired the Inaugural Dinner on 25th July 1845 and Dr. Robert Perry was Vice-Chairman. Dr. Perry chaired the three subsequent business meetings held that year in the Faculty Hall, St. Enoch Square, to organise the formation of the Club. He was also the Chairman at the official First Dinner of the Club, held in Glasgow at the Black Bull Hotel on 30th January 1846.

To return to the winter dinner of 1898, there being a plethora of musical talent present, the evening passed rapidly, one song following another in quick succession. Eight members sang to the Club, and one recited some poems by Burns.

The next dinner was held on 30th June 1898, on board the P.S. *Mercury*; Dr. John R. Black, of Greenock, was Chairman and Dr. J.C. Renton was Vice-Chairman. The *Mercury* (Plate 47) left Greenock at 2.15 p.m., at Kilcreggan was joined by Dr. Alexander and guest, and then sailed up Loch Long as far as the junction with Loch Goil. On the way to Rothesay, it passed Hunter's Quay, Kirn and Dunoon. At Rothesay Dr. J.N. Marshall joined the steamer, which then sailed through the Kyles of Bute, up Loch Riddon, and westwards through the Kyles; the

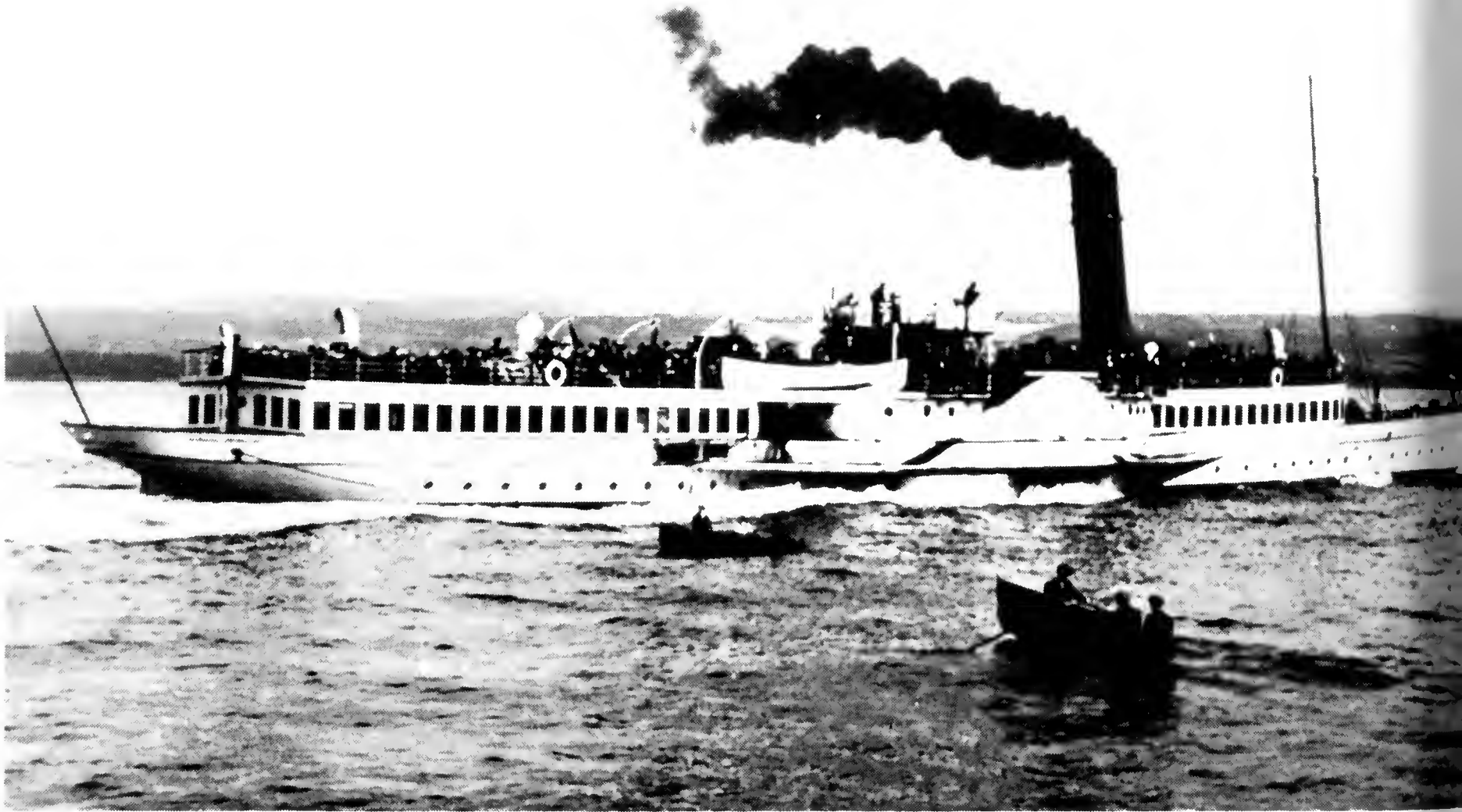


Plate 47

P.S. Mercury on Clyde

Venue for the Club's summer dinner on 30th June 1898.

Note the now considerable elegance of the saloon and dining accommodation
on Clyde steamers.

members sat down to dinner at 5.00 p.m. There were sixteen Town Members, seventeen Country Members and thirteen guests. The meal was well served and reflected credit on the Glasgow and South-Western Steamship Company.

Dinner was followed by the usual two toasts, 'The Queen' and 'The Club'. Sir William Gairdner then rose, and, in a neat and appropriate speech, proposed the health of the Director-General of the Army Medical Department, Surgeon-General James Jameson, an old alumnus of Glasgow University who had honoured the Club with his presence as a guest. The toast having been heartily responded to, Dr. Jameson, in returning thanks, gave some interesting details of the treatment of the Army Medical Department, and expressed a hope that the new warrant which was daily expected would place that Department on a much better footing than it had ever been previously.

Surgeon-General James Jameson was born at Kilbirnie in Ayrshire in 1837. He joined the Medical Services in 1857 and became an M.D. of Glasgow in 1865. He served during the 1866 Fenian Raid in Canada, and received special (quick) promotion in 1870 for the way he dealt with a yellow fever epidemic in Trinidad. In 1870-71 he served during the Franco-Prussian war with a British Ambulance at the siege of Paris, and during the campaign on the Loire. His term of office as Director-General included the early years of the Boer War, and he was the first Director-General of the Royal Army Medical Corps, the formation of which is referred to in the minutes as the "new Warrant". He died in 1904, and his obituary in the *British Medical Journal* was written by Professor T. McCall Anderson, a long-standing member of the Club.

After the Chairman's health had been drunk, the members went on deck to find that the *Mercury* had circled the Island of Bute and was approaching Dunoon. Some members disembarked at Cove, and the steamer reached Greenock at 8.10 p.m.

1899

The winter dinner of 1899 was again held in the Prince of Wales restaurant at Glasgow, with Dr. G.C. Renton in the Chair and Dr. Rutherford as Croupier; forty-three members and seven guests were present. "The usual discussion on the site of the summer dinner was brief, as all the members seemed to agree that as Dr. Rutherford came from Dumfries - the dinner would be held there provided that the doctor came under an obligation not to detain us in the institution under his charge - The Crichton Royal Institution", the well known mental hospital. So the next summer dinner was held at Dumfries, in the Station Hotel at 3.45 p.m.

"Some members had travelled on the 10 o'clock train from St. Enoch station, arriving at Dumfries about 12 noon, where they were met with carriages provided by the kindness of Dr. Rutherford (Plate 48), and were driven to The Crichton Royal Institution where a most sumptuous luncheon was provided by the Chairman. After lunch, members were conducted by the Chairman through the various houses and wards of the Institution, in which the comfort of the patients seemed to be the first consideration, for indeed in few institutions of this kind will one see everything tending to the welfare of the patients being carried out in the most minute detail. Passing from the house, carriages were again in waiting to drive the members through the extensive grounds and farm connected with the Institution, to the site of an artesian well which supplied the Institution with water. This water supply, to all appearances, is inexhaustable, and the collecting and pumping arrangements are perfect".

The members were then taken by carriages to the farm buildings, which contained a large number of horses and cattle; then to the Memorial Chapel, a most handsome edifice capable of seating 800 people; and then to the building containing the electric light installation, said to be one of the most perfect of its kind. This was followed by the inspection of the laundries and other outbuildings, after which the members were conducted to the lawn of Dr. Rutherford's house (Plate 49), where Mrs Rutherford had kindly provided tea, the table being attended by a galaxy of female beauty, consisting of the doctor's daughters and their friends.

Members were then driven to the Station Hotel, to find some other members who had just arrived on the one o'clock train from Glasgow. After the business was dealt with, the twenty-one present sat down to dinner at 3.45 p.m. This dinner in the Station Hotel (Note 21) cost 21/- per head, and as well as the meal, included wines, liqueurs, coffee etc. The members travelled home by the 5.59 to Glasgow, having had a most enjoyable day.

1900-1902

The first dinner in the 1900s was held on 25th January 1900 in the Caledonian Central Station Hotel, Glasgow (Note 22). The minutes state that "the dinner was well cooked and served, and the table decoration was universally admired, indeed it was generally allowed that it was on the whole as nice a dinner as we had sat down to for some time".

The Chairman, Mr. Henry E. Clark, in proposing the toast of 'The Club', made some remarks regarding it being only a dining club, which remarks were strongly



Plate 48

James Rutherford



Plate 49

Crichton Royal Institution, Dumfries

House of the Superintendent, Dr. James Rutherford, where members of the Club were entertained on 29th June 1899.

objected to by Sir William Gairdner, by maintaining that the social is no unimportant element in the welfare of the profession. Sir William had always believed this, for forty-four years previously, at the opening of the new Medical School in Edinburgh, he had addressed the students and staff in the following terms:

" You should bear in mind throughout your studies that the spirit of medicine is eminently social, that its duties have to be performed among men and the habit of easy unrestrained verbal intercourse with others is among the first of the lessons you have to learn".

During a most enjoyable evening, the company was enlivened by both vocal and instrumental music and recitations by various members of the Club and their guests, among whom were Drs Wallace, Clarke, Faulds, Beatson, John Goff and others. In the Club's records there is a receipt from the Glasgow City Chamberlain's Office, dated 29th January 1900, acknowledging the gift of ten guineas from the Club to the Lord Provost's South African War Relief Fund.

The Secretary, having held office for ten years and not being as young as he once was, proposed his resignation, and suggested that since this post had been held by a Country Member for that term, it would be advisable that the Club should take into consideration before the next meeting, the propriety of electing a Town Member, and decide by that time on whom their choice would fall. The members dispersed at an early hour after singing *Auld Lang Syne*.

Dr. Goff was not, in fact, relieved of the Secretaryship until 1904.

The 1900 summer dinner was held on board the P.S. *Empress* on Loch Lomond. The *Empress* (Plate 50) was chartered for sole use by the Club for £20 from the Dumbarton and Balloch Joint Line Committee. Twenty-six members were present, under the Chairmanship of Dr. John Goff, with Dr. Walker Downie as Croupier. Dr. Frederick H. Clarke of Dumfries was elected Vice-Chairman for the next dinner. Three new members were then elected unanimously: Professor Ralph Stockman of Materia Medica, Professor Robert Muir of Pathology, and Dr. Robert O. Adamson.

Business having been completed, the steamer started for the head of Loch Lomond, sailing through the islands near Balmaha, passing Tarbet and Inversnaid, and arriving at Ardlui two hours after leaving Balloch. The day could hardly have been finer, neither too hot nor the reverse, and the beautiful scenery was seen to perfection. One or two of the members made use of their cameras "to keep them

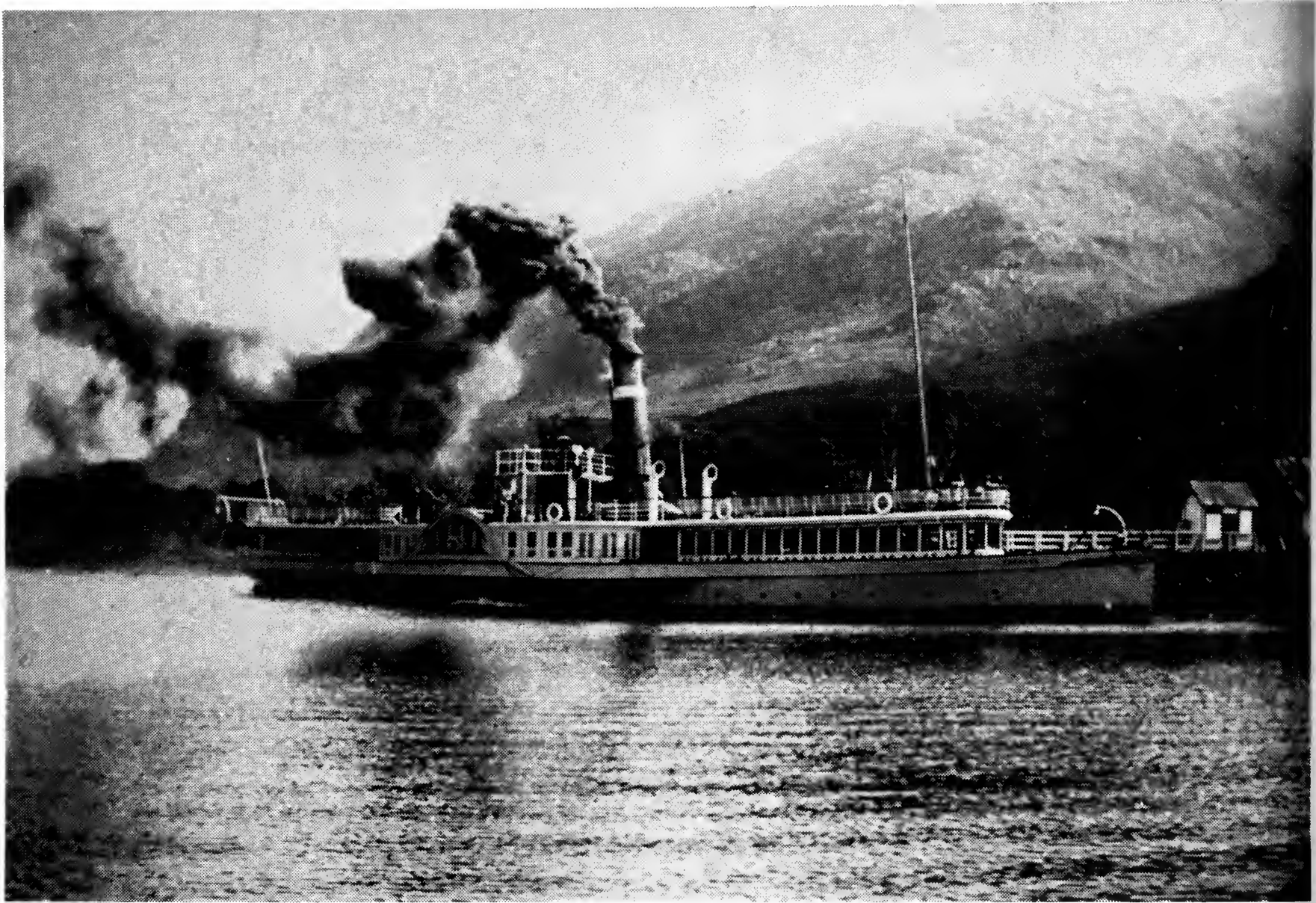


Plate 50

P.S. *Empress* on Loch Lomond

Venue for the Club's summer dinner on 28th June 1900.

The *Empress*, built in 1888, was a new Loch Lomond paddle steamer, brought into service apparently as a replacement for the *Princess of Wales* (disposed of in 1881), with which she shared the same elegant lines and excellent passenger accommodation.

Photograph shows the *Empress* at Ardlui pier.

in perpetual remembrance" of the scenery. The dinner table was prettily decorated, the viands good and well served, and reflected credit on the local stewards who undertook the purveying on board the *Empress*. This was one of the rare occasions on which the vocal talent of the club was not required, the beautiful surroundings being found ample to entertain the company. The Secretary regretfully reported the death of Dr. Black of Greenock, while on holiday in Algiers.

In the Minute Book, after the minutes of the summer dinner of 1900, there is the following entry: "On account of the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria" there was no dinner in January 1901.

The next dinner was held on the P.S. *Lady Rowena* (Plate 51), boarded by the members at Craigendoran at 4.30 p.m. on 27th June 1901. Dr. F.H. Clarke was Chairman. Dr. Douglas Reid, a very old member of the Club, had been removed from membership at the previous dinner because of his absence from four consecutive dinners, but was unanimously elected an Honorary Country Member. Five new members were elected at this dinner: William Stewart Cook of Greenock, Joshua Ferguson of Paisley, William Grant Macpherson of Bothwell, Cuthbert Nairn of Greenock, and Lindsay Steven of Glasgow.

The P.S. *Lady Rowena* proceeded up to the head of Loch Long, then up Loch Goil, finally arriving at Helensburgh pier just after 8.00 p.m. to allow "our Greenock friends to catch the boat to that town".

"We then proceeded up the Gareloch, round the training ship *Cumberland*, and had a fine view of Mr. Gordon Bennett's new steam yacht, the *Lysistrata* (Plate 52), which had been recently completed and was about ready for sea" (Note 23). The members returned to Glasgow by the 8.39 train from Craigendoran.

There is actually a mistake in these minutes, for the *Cumberland* mentioned in the minutes was not the original training ship *Cumberland* (Plate 34), but a new vessel, the T.S. *Empress* (Plate 53; see Note 24). In 1889 the original *Cumberland* was destroyed by fire, being burnt down to the waterline. Five of the boys living on the ship were later charged with arson.

As a training ship the *Empress* usually had 400 boys on board; she closed down in 1923. In 1918 the average height of boys at discharge, aged fifteen, was four feet 10½ inches. On returning from leave all boys were fumigated. For several months in 1900, all leave was cancelled because of a smallpox epidemic in Glasgow.

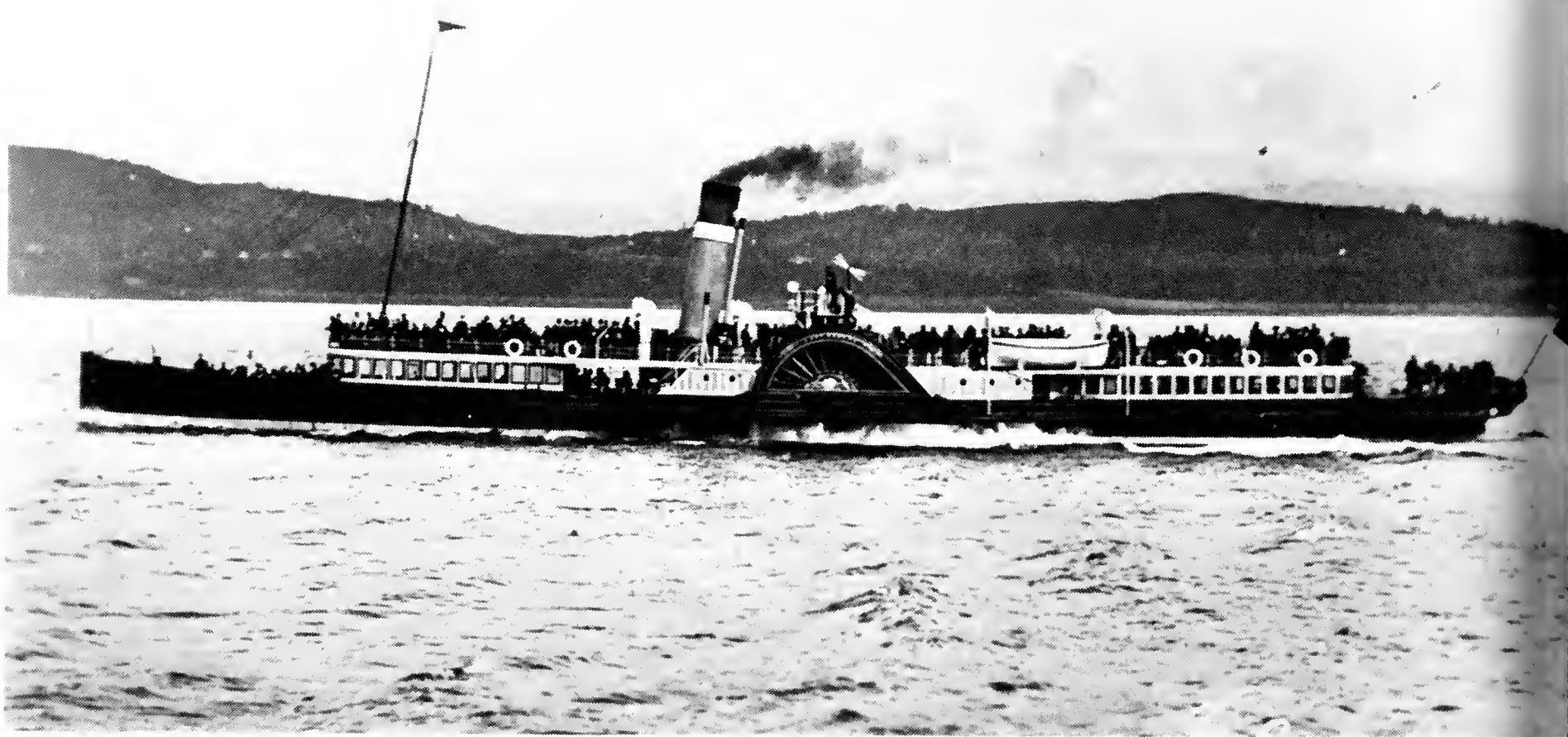


Plate 51

P.S. Lady Rowena on Clyde

Venue for the Club's summer dinner on 27th June 1901.

Another example of the splendid and elegant paddle steamers now operating on Clyde waters.

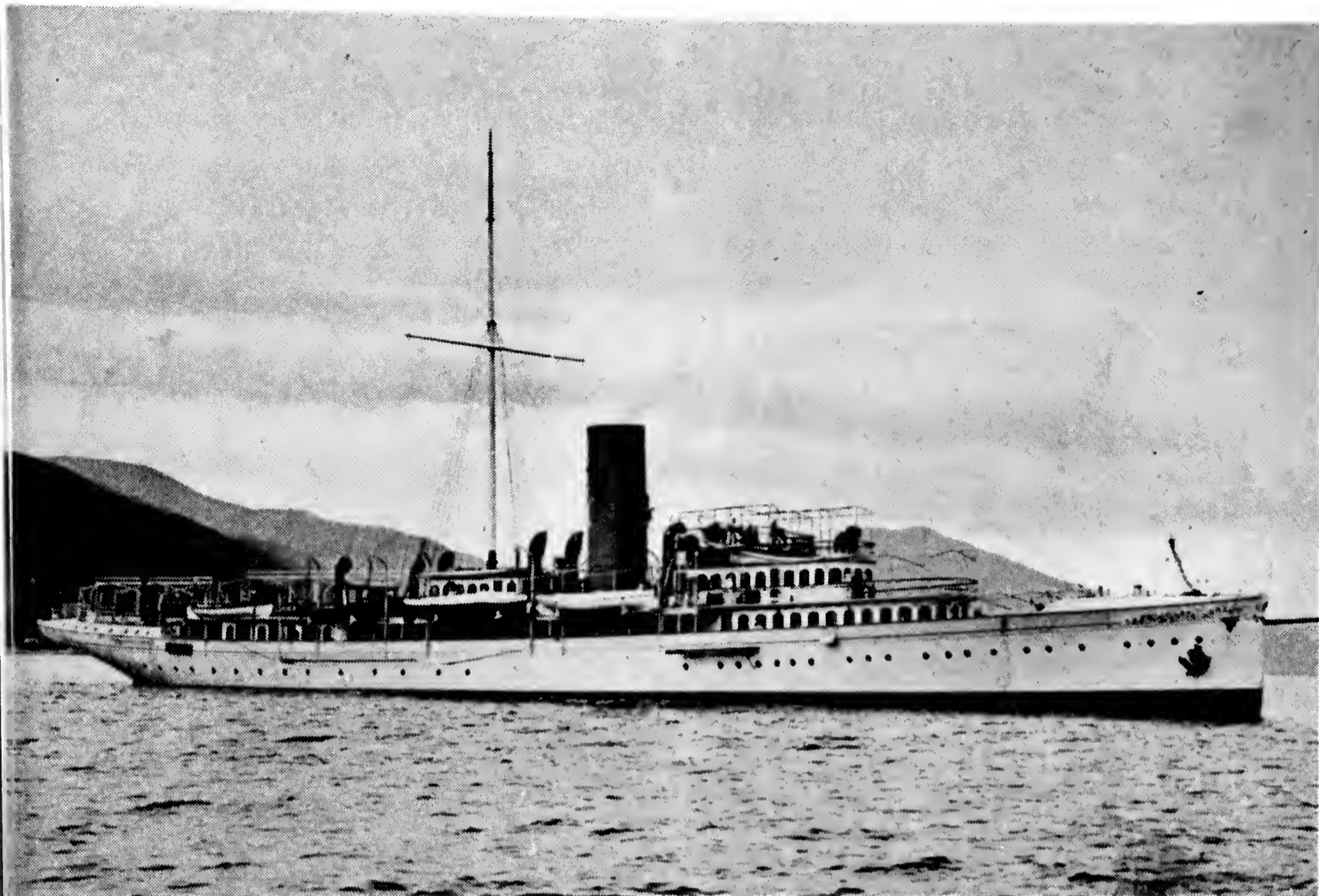


Plate 52

Mr. Gordon Bennett's Steam Yacht *Lysistrata*

At this time (1901), the *Lysistrata* was the largest and fastest privately owned ship in the world. For further details, see text.

Summer dinner, 27th June 1901.

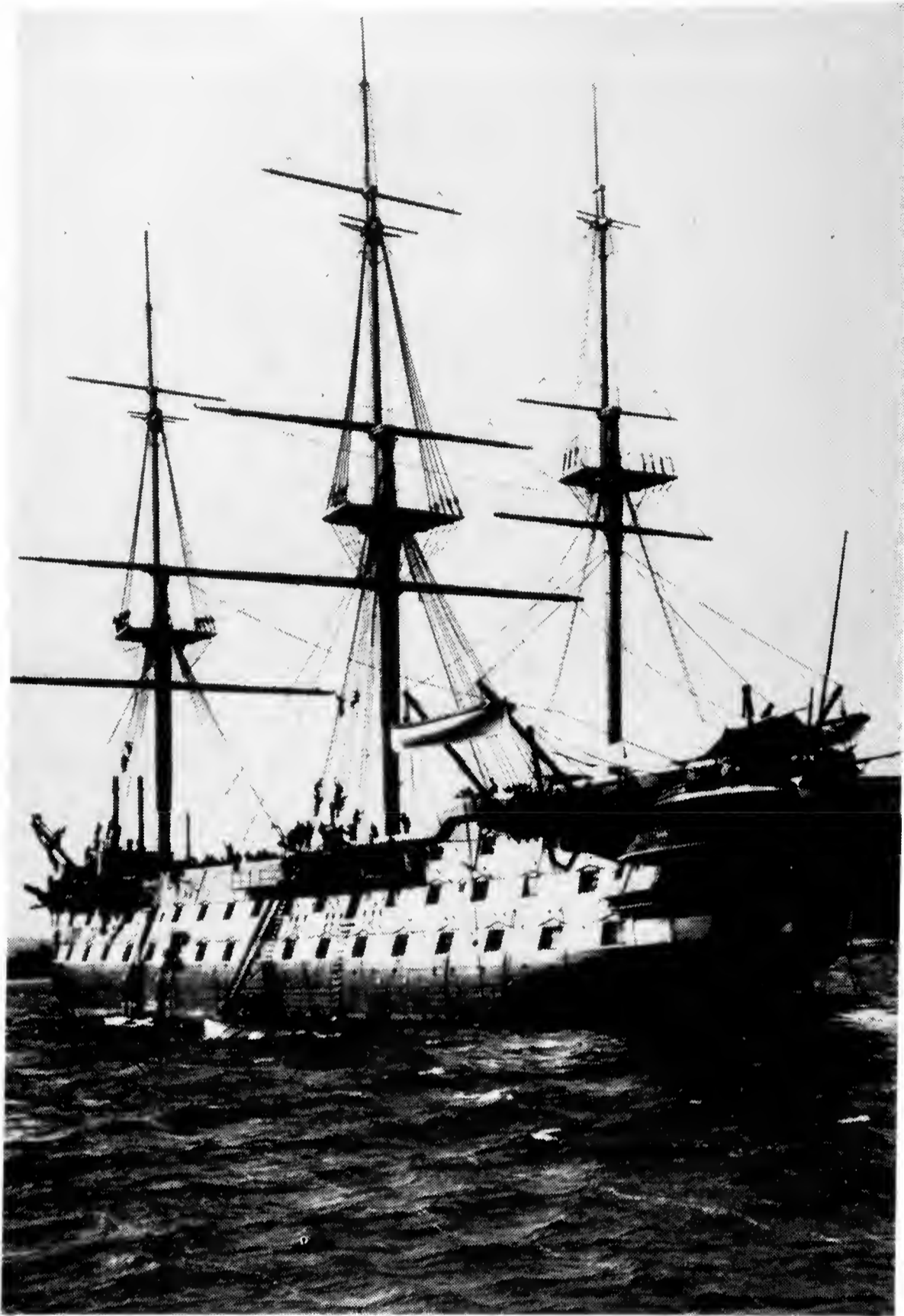


Plate 53

Training Ship Empress

Summer dinner of 27th June 1901.
See text for correction to Club minutes.

The winter dinner of 1902 was held in the Central Hotel, Glasgow, with forty-three sitting down to dinner, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Wallace Downie. Sir William Tennant Gairdner had resigned from the Club in the previous November, but was unanimously elected an Honorary Member, before dinner commenced.

During the discussion after dinner concerning the locality of the summer meeting, many and various were the propositions, among which not the least prominent was a trip upon the Forth and Clyde Canal. No definite decision was taken, and as usual the problem was referred to the Committee for decision. During the evening, there was a splendid display of musical talent by members and guests.

This brought to an end the minutes of the Western Medical Club appearing in the first Minute Book.

CHAPTER 5

Finances, and the Club Treasurers

A meeting of all those doctors who had signified their intention of dining at Bowling Bay Inn on 25th July 1845 for the Inaugural Dinner of the Club was convened by the interim Secretary, Dr. J.G. Fleming, and was held in the Faculty Hall, St. Enoch Square on 14th November 1845.

At this meeting, Dr. William Weir was appointed the first Treasurer of the Club. It was also agreed that the gentlemen who had dined at Bowling Bay were only liable to pay the annual subscription which was due in January 1846. This subscription was five shillings, and the entry money for those joining the Club after the Inaugural Dinner at Bowling was also five shillings.

At a meeting of the Managers of the Club held in the Faculty Hall on 29th December 1845, the Treasurer was instructed to collect the first year's subscription of 5/- from the Town Members and to intimate to the Country Members that the subscription was now due.

William Weir (Treasurer 1845-1851)

Dr. William Weir (1794-1876), was the first Treasurer of the Club. He was educated at the Glasgow Grammar (High) School and entered the Faculty in 1816. After qualifying he practised in Lochwinnoch for a short time and then settled in Glasgow. He qualified M.D. at Glasgow University in 1829, and in the same year was appointed surgeon in the Royal Infirmary. He was Lecturer in Medicine at the Portland Street Medical School from 1830 to 1842, having been appointed a physician at the Royal Infirmary in 1840. For a time he was also Lecturer in Phrenology at the Andersonian Institution. He was Editor of the *Glasgow Medical Journal* for some years, and was the man who really got the journal off the ground. His consulting rooms were at 175 Buchanan Street, which he shared with three non-medicals, one of whom was a French corset-maker.

Dr. Weir (Plate 54) was President of the Glasgow Faculty from 1847 to 1849 (Comrie, 1932: 536-538; Gibson, 1983: 198-201). He died in 1876, having been made an Honorary Member of the Western Medical Club in the previous year.

At the summer dinner in Ardrossan in July 1848, a motion proposed by Drs John Macdowall, John Paxton and John Crawford, was laid on the table, "that



Plate 54

William Weir

every member shall pay 10/- on being elected as a member of the Club and 10/- of annual subscription", but owing to the cancellation of the 1849 winter dinner because of an outbreak of cholera in Glasgow, it was not discussed until the meeting at Inverkip in July 1849.

At a Committee of Management meeting held in Glasgow on 4th July of that year, four Country Members "were all declared to be no longer members of the Club, having failed to attend the meetings, and pay the claims the Club had against them, though frequently requested to do so".

At the summer dinner at Inverkip in July 1849, the motion laid on the table at the 1848 summer dinner came up for discussion "that the entrance fee and annual subscription should be doubled to 10/- each". Dr. Alexander Dunlop Anderson then moved an amendment, seconded by Dr. Weir, "that the entrance fee should be raised to half a guinea and continue the annual subscription at 5/-". This amendment was passed by a large majority.

Dr. Weir resigned the Treasurership in January 1851, and during the summer dinner that year at the George Hotel in Kilmarnock, Dr. Alexander Stewart was appointed to replace him in that office. It was minuted that the members owed Dr. Weir a great deal for his able and important services as Treasurer.

Alexander Stewart (Treasurer 1851-1855)

Dr. Alexander Stewart (c.1800-1855) was an original Town Member of the Club. He appears on the membership list as a surgeon. He lived in Glasgow, and died in July 1855 while still Treasurer of the Club.

At the winter dinner of 1853, the Committee of Management plus Dr. Weir were instructed to revise the Laws. They met twice, and on 13th July suggested five alterations to the Laws. These were laid on the table at the 1853 summer dinner at Greenock, and were discussed in detail at the 1854 winter dinner in Glasgow.

They were passed unanimously and the fifth addition was that "as too much indulgence has been shown in times past - to those members who do not return their dinner tickets at the specified period before the dinner, the Committee recommend that it be an instruction to the Treasurer, in all cases, rigorously to exact the sum of five shillings from every member who does not comply with this reasonable request of the Club".

Dr. Alexander Stewart died in 1855, and the Secretary, Dr. John A. Easton, carried out the double duties until Dr. John Coats was appointed Treasurer at the January 1856 dinner.

John Coats (Treasurer 1856-1866)

Dr. John Coats (1815-1879) was Treasurer for ten years from 1856. He was born at East Kilbride in the year of the Battle of Waterloo and died in 1879. He began his studies at Glasgow University in the Arts Faculty, but transferred to medicine in 1832, becoming an M.D. in 1836, a Licentiate of the Faculty the same year and a Fellow in 1851. When a young man, he worked with Dr. Allan Burns on the staff of the College Street Medical School.

He practised in the University lying-in hospital, situated in the 'College Open' in the High Street, with the two successive Professors of Midwifery, Professor Cummins and Professor Pagan. He remained particularly friendly with Professor Pagan for the rest of his life, and attended him on his death bed. Professor John Pagan was elected a member of the Club in 1854, and died in 1868. To return to Dr. Coats, he practiced from his houses in turn in Argyle Street, West Regent Street, Bath Street and Newton Place, like many of the Glasgow doctors gradually moving westwards as the city grew.

At the summer dinner at Mitchell's Hotel, Balloch, on 25th June 1858, Dr. Coats gave his Treasurer's report "from which it appeared that a balance of £7.15s.6d. remained in his hands. Thereafter a vote of thanks was carried to Dr. Coats for his efficient discharge of the duties of his office".

The only dinner of 1862 was held in the George Hotel, Glasgow on 25th July, and to quote the minutes: "The Club took the opportunity to record a vote of thanks to their Treasurer, Dr. Coats, for his admirable energy in collecting, faithfulness in preserving, and economy in distributing the funds of the Society", after he had given his financial report.

Some months after the summer dinner at Kilmarnock in June 1864, the Secretary, Dr. James Fraser, moved from Glasgow to Gatehouse-of-Fleet and apparently made no arrangements to hand over the Secretaryship to someone else. It was Dr. Coats, as Treasurer, who called a meeting of Town Members two years later on 5th July 1866 in the Faculty Hall "To take into consideration the present state and future management of the Club". At this special meeting, Dr. Coats proposed "that the annual subscription to the Club be in future 10/- instead of 5/-

and should be referred for discussion to the next meeting", at which it was passed without dissent.

Dr. Coats retired as Treasurer at this Special General Meeting. Dr. James E. Newman was appointed interim Treasurer, and was confirmed as Treasurer at the next dinner, which was quickly arranged and actually held later the same month, on 25th July 1866 in Faculty Hall. Thirty-seven members were present at this dinner, twenty-three Town Members and fourteen Country Members.

James Elder Newman (Treasurer 1866-1869)

Dr. James E. Newman (c.1815-1870) lived at 10 Carlton Place, Glasgow, and was Treasurer of the Club from July 1866 to January 1869. He qualified M.D. at Glasgow University in 1836, became a Licentiate of the Faculty in 1841 and a Fellow of the Faculty later the same year. For some time he was a surgeon at the Gorbals dispensary. He was a member of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Glasgow, and a member and later President of the Southern Medical Society

During Dr. Newman's term of office, a Special General Meeting of the Club was held on 5th December 1866, at which the revised Laws of the Club were agreed. Several of these new Laws directly concerned Club finances and the duties of the Treasurer (see Laws X, XI and XII in Appendix 3).

Dr. Newman joined the Western Medical Club in January 1850, and became a Country Member in 1869 when he retired as Treasurer and also retired from work, moving to live at Cove, Dunbartonshire. At the winter dinner of 1869 "the members expressed much regret at Dr. J. E. Newman's resignation from the Treasurership to whom the Club had for some years been under great obligation for his energetic management of the funds". Unfortunately he did not live to enjoy a long retirement, and died at Cove in 1870.

Francis Hay Thomson (Treasurer 1869-1870)

Dr. Francis Hay Thomson (1814-1870) was elected Treasurer of the Club at the winter dinner of 1869. He was Treasurer for an even shorter time than Dr. Newman, since he died while on his honeymoon on 21st April 1870 (Anon., 1870). He was born in Gifford in 1814, the son of an accountant and nephew of the eminent landscape painter, the Reverend John Thomson of Duddingston. Before taking an M.D. at Jena in 1843, he was previously apprenticed to a dentist, studied at Edinburgh Medical School, and was an assistant to a doctor for several years. In 1843, he moved to Glasgow and lived in Hope Street. He practised dentistry

throughout most of his life, becoming a Licentiate of the Glasgow Faculty in 1858 and a Fellow in 1866. He joined the Western Medical Club in 1864.

Dr. Thomson was a man of particularly wide interests: he collected gems, pictures and china; he was also interested in metallurgy and took out two patents concerning the smelting of copper and production of steel. He was a director of the Glasgow Art Union, and President of both the Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow and the Odontological Society of Edinburgh.

It was pointed out at the winter dinner of 1869 that, owing to the large attendance of members at meetings over the previous three years, the annual subscription had been found to be inadequate to meet the ordinary expenses. As a result of this fact, a motion was placed on the table by Mr. Richard and Dr. Stewart that "the annual subscription be increased from 10/- to 15/-".

At the summer dinner on a paddle steamer on Loch Lomond, the above motion was put by Dr. Coats. "An amendment, duly seconded, was raised by Dr. William Newman of Stewarton, that in future the annual subscription be one guinea". After considerable discussion the amendment was lost and the motion was carried, thus increasing the annual subscription from 10/- to 15/-. Dr. J.G. Fleming and Dr. J.B. Cowan then placed before the meeting a motion "that the entrance money be raised to two guineas". At the January 1870 dinner much discussion took place, various amendments to Dr. Fleming's motion were proposed and defeated, and ultimately his motion was passed by a considerable majority.

At this dinner in January 1870, Dr. Francis Hay Thomson, the Treasurer, reported that, as at 31st December 1869, there was a balance of £13.0s.0d. to the credit of the Club.

At the 1870 summer dinner in Ayr it was announced that Dr. Francis Hay Thomson had died, and the Secretary was instructed to express the feelings and sympathy of the members to Mrs Thomson. Dr. Thomas McCall Anderson was then appointed the sixth Treasurer of the Club. He joined the Western Medical Club in 1861, and was the son of Alexander Dunlop Anderson who chaired the Inaugural Dinner.

Thomas McCall Anderson (Treasurer 1870-1880)

Dr. Thomas McCall Anderson (1836-1908) was Treasurer from 1870 until 1880, when he retired to become Secretary, an office he held until 1892.



Plate 55

Thomas McCall Anderson

Dr. Anderson (Plate 55) was born in June 1836, the year before Queen Victoria ascended the throne. He attended school in Edinburgh, and studied medicine at Glasgow University, qualifying M.D. with Honours in 1858. He practised for two years in the Royal Infirmary, for another two years in France, Germany and Austria, and then was appointed a physician in the Royal Infirmary and Professor of Medicine at Anderson's Medical College in the early 1860s. Anderson's College was actually founded by money left by his grand-uncle, who was Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University from 1757 to 1796.

The University moved from the High Street to Gilmorehill in 1870. In 1874, the University set up a Chair of Clinical Medicine (Sir William Tennant Gairdner was Regius Professor of Medicine) and Dr. T. McCall Anderson was appointed and given wards in the Western Infirmary.

At the winter dinner in 1872, the minutes state that after dinner "the Secretary and Treasurer submitted their respective reports which were adopted and which were held to indicate that the Club was in every respect in a satisfactory and prosperous condition". Similar reports were made by the Secretary and Treasurer at the winter dinner of 1873, and the Secretary also reported that the Club was full, with a waiting list of twenty.

There were only five Town and eleven Country Members present at the summer dinner of 1874, which was held in the Douglas Hotel, Brodick, Arran. This gave rise to considerable discussion at that dinner as to the best means of enforcing attendance, and it was eventually moved by Professor Simpson "that in future members returning their dinner tickets should pay the sum of five shillings towards the expense of the dinner".

This motion was introduced for discussion at the next dinner and gave rise to a somewhat animated discussion, at the close of which, in deference to the opinions expressed, Professor Simpson, the Chairman, withdrew his motion. The Treasurer Dr. Anderson then gave his report, followed by the report of the Secretary, and both were "unanimously held as indicative of the Club's continued prosperity".

At the winter dinner of 1876 there was a long discussion on, and eventual acceptance of, the proposals by a Special Committee on the election of Honorary Members of the Club. The only financial side to these proposals was that such Honorary Members would pay their share of the dinners, but not entrance fees nor annual subscriptions.

At the winter dinner of 1880 Professor Leishman intimated his resignation as Secretary, an office he had held for fourteen years, and all efforts to get him to change his mind were to no avail. The Committee then recommended that Dr. McCall Anderson retire as Treasurer and be appointed Secretary, with Dr. Hector C. Cameron being appointed Treasurer in his place. These appointments were confirmed at the next dinner, on 30th July 1880.

Hector Clare Cameron (Treasurer 1880-1903)

Hector Clare Cameron (1843-1929) joined the Club in 1875. He became Treasurer in 1880, and held this office for twenty-three years, retiring as Treasurer in 1903.

Dr. Cameron (Plate 56) was born in Demerara in British Guyana in 1843, the son of a sugar planter. He was sent home for schooling to St. Andrews, at Madras College, and then proceeded to the Arts Faculty at St. Andrews University. He subsequently changed to the Medical Faculty, first at Edinburgh, and then to Glasgow where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1866 and M.D. in 1868.

He was in turn a student and then a dresser with Professor Lister. After graduating in 1866 he became Lister's house-surgeon, then his assistant, before Lister left for Edinburgh in 1869. He continued Lister's surgical methods, and in 1873 was appointed a visiting surgeon in the Royal Infirmary at the age of 30.

In 1881 he transferred to the Western Infirmary as a visiting surgeon, and in 1900 succeeded George Buchanan as Professor of Clinical Surgery there. When he retired in 1911 at the age of 68, the University bestowed on him an LL.D. He became a Fellow of the Faculty in 1878, and was knighted in 1899 at the Centenary celebrations of the Faculty, of which he was President at that time (Gibson, 1983: 182-185).

At the winter dinner of 1883 held in the Faculty Hall, Hector C. Cameron, Thomas McCall Anderson and Bruce Goff laid on the table a motion: "We propose that Rule X be amended to read as follows: Every member shall pay £2.2/- on his being elected and 15/- of annual subscription payable on the first of January. Members elected in January pay the subscription for the current year, those elected in July do not. If the entry money and annual subscription (when that is due) be not paid within three months after the Secretary has intimated to any gentleman his admission to the Club, his election shall then be void. All the funds thus raised shall be applied to the general expenses of the Club at the discretion of the Committee of Management". This was unanimously adopted at the next

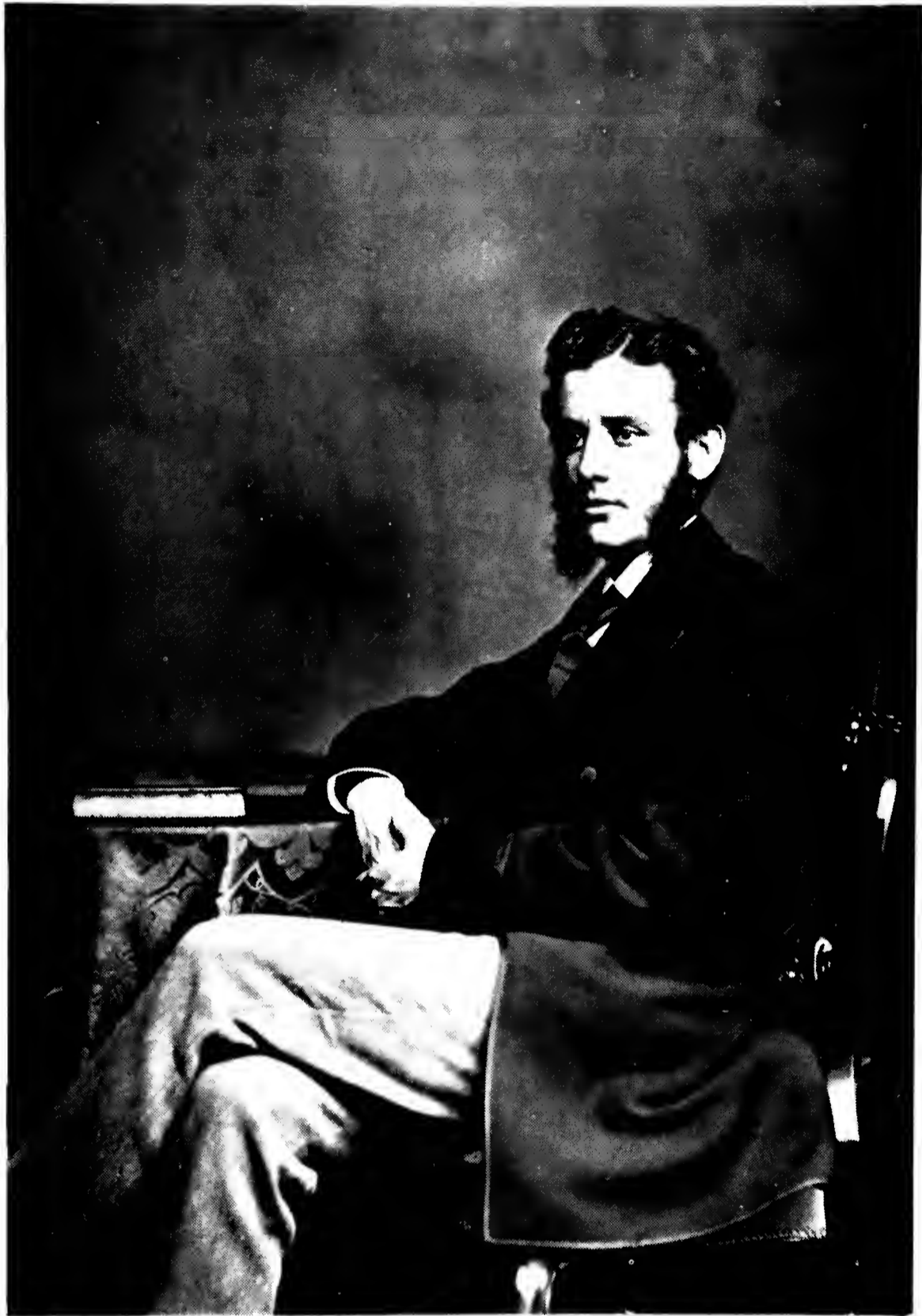


Plate 56

Hector Clare Cameron

summer dinner at Kilmarnock in July 1884, Dr. McAllister of Kilmarnock being Chairman that day.

Most of the dinners held in the Faculty Hall were purveyed by the firm of Ferguson & Forrester, whose head offices and restaurant were at 36 Buchanan Street, Glasgow. In 1889, when the first winter dinner for many years was not held in the Faculty Hall, the function took place in the Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, which in fact at that time was owned by Ferguson & Forrester. The account for this dinner showed that the food and wine cost 25/- per head, when a working man's weekly wage at the time would be about £1.00. Nowadays the equivalent wage is said to be some £200 per week, so by nineteenth century proportions we should be paying about £250 per person for a dinner. In fact the average charge recently has been around £30.00, so the members of our Committee look after us fairly well.

It is certainly very interesting to examine the accounts of those dinners, of the period 1870 to 1902, which are still in the Treasurer's records. In January 1870 the price of dinner, including wines, was one guinea per head. From 1875 to 1897 it was 25/-, and in 1898 and 1899, when the Club dined in Ferguson & Forrester's restaurant at 36 Buchanan Street, it was back down to 20/-. Also during that period, the same purveyors produced the catering on board ship on the Firth of Clyde or Loch Lomond for the price of 25/- per head.

After the members stopped having their winter dinners in the Faculty Hall, for the next twelve years the Club moved around various Glasgow hotels, from the Grand to the Bath, back to the Grand for three years under new management, then to the North British in George Square, then to Ferguson & Forrester's restaurant at the bottom of Buchanan Street, and in 1900 and 1902 to the 'Calais' hotel at Central Station. There was no dinner in January 1901 on account of the death of Queen Victoria.

The accounts for the summer dinners during the 1880s contained some unusual items which are worth recalling:

- 1880 Charter of P.S. *Princess of Wales* on Loch Lomond, £15.
- 1881 Wine and Refreshments for artists, £1.17s.6d.
- 1881 50 Cigars and Vestas, £1.16s.0d.
- 1882 Charter of S.S. *Shandon* on Clyde, £15.
- 1882 Pier dues at Rothesay, 12/4d.
- 1885 Coaches from Aberfoyle to Loch Ard and back, £2.2s.6d.

1886 (Winter dinner) - Cigars, Vestas and Cigarettes, £3.9s.10d.

1886 Cash paid for artists etc., £5.5s.0d.

At the winter dinner in the Grand Hotel in January 1894, the Treasurer Hector C. Cameron read his annual report "from which it was pleasing to find the Club was in so prosperous a condition, there being a very substantial balance at the Bankers".

Amongst the papers still held by the present Treasurer is the annual Financial Report for the year to 31st December 1899. The balance at credit in the Royal Bank of Scotland was £133.3s.4d., and also shows "balance due by the Treasurer: - 5 pence".

Other expenses included: "Gratuities to the waiters at the winter and summer dinners, respectively £1 and 10/-. Expenses by the Secretary, Dr. Bruce Goff of Bothwell, between January and June: 15th January - Telegrams, £0.1s.1d; 10th June - stamps and envelopes, 6/6d; and 28th June - 1 telegram, ninepence".

The first Minute Book finishes with the minutes of the winter dinner held in the Caledonian Hotel in the Central Station, Glasgow on 30th January 1902. The Secretary has added in pencil at the end of these minutes "Town membership full, one vacancy Country".

Sir Hector Cameron retired from the Treasurership in 1903, and was succeeded that year by Dr. Henry Rutherford, a Town Member. Sir Hector had served as Treasurer for twenty-three years, more than twice as long as any other Treasurer, although Sir Thomas McCall Anderson served firstly as Treasurer and then as Secretary for a continuous term of twenty-two years.

Appendix 1

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE CLUB 1845-1902

Town Members, resident in Glasgow, and date of joining:

1845

Alexander Maxwell Adams
 Alexander Dunlop Anderson
 Andrew Anderson
 William Brown
 Andrew Buchanan
 Honorary Member 1877
 John Crawford
 John Alexander Easton
 Honorary Secretary 1851-1856
 Honorary Treasurer 1855
 William Ferrie
 William Findlay
 John Gibson Fleming
 Honorary Secretary 1845-1851
 Honorary Member 1876
 William Richardson Gibb
 David Gibson (see Note 2)
 James Alexander Lawrie
 William Lyon
 John Macdowall
 John Macfarlane
 Robert McGregor
 Andrew Mackie
 Alexander Maclaverty
 James Macleod,
 John Panton
 Robert Perry
 Alexander Stewart
 Honorary Treasurer 1851-1855
 George Watson
 William Weir
 Honorary Treasurer 1845-1851
 Honorary Member 1876
 James Wilson

1846

James Ronald
George Watt

1847

Robert Hunter
James Jeffray
Thomas Marshall
Peter Stewart

1848

John Aitken
John Coats
Honorary Treasurer 1856-1866
Robert Dunlop Tannahill

1849

Alexander Mackintosh
Thomas Watson
Honorary Secretary 1856-1862

1850

Robert Telfer Corbet
James Elder Newman
Honorary Treasurer 1866-1869

1851

Mathew Mather
Andrew Risk

1852

Joshua Paterson

1853

George Buchanan
Honorary Member 1878
John Black Cowan
Honorary Member 1878

1854

Andrew Buchanan
 John Cooper
 John McMichan Pagan
 Charles Ritchie
 James Watson

1858

James Fraser
Honorary Secretary 1862-1865

1859

William Leishman
Honorary Secretary 1866-1880
 George Husband Baird Macleod

1861

Alexander McIntosh

1862

Joseph Lister

1864

Donald Dewar
 William Tennant Gairdner
Honorary Member 1902
 William Lyon
 James Morton
 Pierce Adolphus Simpson
Honorary Member 1897
 Francis Hay Thomson
Honorary Treasurer 1869-1870
 John Thomson

1866

Thomas McCall Anderson
Honorary Treasurer 1870-1880
Honorary Secretary 1880-1892
 John Dougan
 Archibald Kennedy Irvine
 George Mather

Robert Perry

Honorary Member 1897

George Rainey

1867

Robert Scott Orr

1868

Andrew Anderson

James Dunlop

William Greenlees

Alexander McIntosh

James Duncan Maclaren

1869

Andrew Fergus

Henry Robertson Howatt

James George Wilson

John Young

1870

Charles Cameron

Robert Walker

1872

Algernon Wood Smith

1873

Seamus Hamilton

1874

Alexander Dickson

1875

Hector Clare Cameron

Honorary Treasurer 1880-1903

Matthew Charteris

Thomas Reid

Robert Smart

1876

James Finlayson
 Gavin Paterson Tennent
 Allen Thomson
Honorary Member 1876

1876

Joseph Coats

1877

John Ewan Brodie
 William James Fleming

1878

David Foulis
 James Burn Russell

1879

John Alexander Lothian

1880

David Yellowlees

1882

John Clelland
 John Ross Granger
 John Gray McKendrick

1883

Bayley Balfour
 William Riddell Watson

1884

George Thomas Beatson
 Samson Gemmell
 David Newman

1885

James Crawford Renton

1886

Henry Edward Clark
Andrew Freeland Fergus

1887

Walker Downie

1890

John Freeland Fergus
Andrew Maitland Ramsay

1892

Samuel Sloan

1893

Thomas Kennedy Dalziel
Henry Rutherford

1895

Donald James McIntosh
James Henderson Nicol
Robert Henry Parry

1897

Andrew Wilson

1898

George Burnside Buchanan
Joseph Coats
Thomas William Jenkins
Landel Rose Oswald
William Robert Sewell
Henry Garnet Wilson

1899

John Marshall Cowan
George Henry Edington

1900

Robert Oswald Adamson
 Robert Muir
 Ralph Stockman

1901

Lindsay Steven

Country Members, place of residence, and date of joining:**1845**

Robert Buchanan	Dumbarton
John Campbell	Largs
Charles Crawford	Gourock
William Davidson	Largs
Thomas Gibson	Rothesay
Alexander Hood	Kilmarnock
Alexander Macfadzean	Ardrossan
Robert McKechnie	Paisley
William McKechnie	Paisley
<i>Honorary Member 1852</i>	
James Mackie	Greenock
Thomas McLachlan	Rothesay
John Paxton	Kilmarnock
<i>Honorary Member 1876</i>	
Benjamin Maule Richard	Dumbarton
John Skene	Helensburgh
Charles Freebairn Sloan	Ayr
John Speirs	Greenock
John Robert Speirs	Greenock
William Torbet	Paisley
William Whiteside	Ayr

1846

William Baird	Renfrew
Kelburne King	Port Glasgow
Malcolm Maclaren	Johnstone

1847

James Brown	Saltcoats
John Cullen	Renton
John Campbell Haldane	Ayr
Alexander McGowan	Greenock
John Mitchell	Mauchline
John Pollock	Mearns
<i>Honorary Member 1876</i>	
John Thomson	Hamilton

1848

John Ferguson	Irvine
Dugald Hamilton	Mauchline

1849

James Maxwell Aitken	Kilmarnock
Alexander Speirs	Beith
William Swan Stuart	Dumbarton
John Thomson	Inveraray

1850

William Blair Hamilton	Dalry
John Anderson Jamieson	Helensburgh
Robert Douglas Reid	Port Glasgow
David Taylor	Paisley

1851

James Espie	Falkirk
Donald McLeod	Kilmarnock

1852

James Ballantine	Catrine
James Lawrence	Cumnock
William Newman	Stewarton

1853

William Alexander	Dundonald
Matthew Fould	Mauchline
William Large Laurie	Greenock
James Mackie	Greenock

1854

William Jamieson	Bellshill
James Wallace	Greenock

1855

James Howie	Helensburgh
Andrew Rankin	New Cumnock
Alexander McFie Smith	Govan

1856

William Allan	Dalmellington
William Fleming Cullen	Renton

1858

William Graham	Dumbarton
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1860

James Bruce	Liverpool
Charles McLachlan	Rothsay
Hugh Smith	Kilmarnock
John Thomson	Kilmarnock

1861

Robert Duncan Rose	Darvel
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1862

Walter McKinlay	Paisley
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William McTyer
James Fraser Paton
William Shields

Maybole
Greenock
Irvine

1863

William Johnstone Marshall

Greenock

1864

William Prichard

Partick

1866

Robert Leishman Allan
James Gemmell
Bruce Goff
Honorary Secretary 1892-1904

Greenock
Dunoon
Bothwell

Robert Kirkwood
Duncan McKenzie
Robert Beedie Robertson
Honorary Member 1891

Largs
Kilsyth
Ardrossan

Donald Patrick Stewart
Honorary Member 1897

Kirkintilloch

1867

James Lindsay Mason
James Whiteford
James George Wilson

Ayr
Greenock
Ayr

1868

Robert Dobbie
John McCulloch
Matthew Mason
John Robertson

Ayr
Greenock
Old Kilpatrick
Dumbarton

1870

John Caldwell
James McAllister

Shotts
Kilmarnock

1872

James Farquharson	Coatbridge
Gabriel Gibb	Helensburgh
Adam Gilmour	Duntocher
William McLachlan	Dalmellington
John Miller	Newmains
Robert Douglas Reid	Helensburgh
<i>Honorary Member 1901</i>	
William Aitchison Wilson	Greenock

1874

William Naismith	Hamilton
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1875

Thomas Graham	Paisley
Robert Moffat	Falkirk

1876

John Reid	Dunoon
William Sloan	Dalry
James Ross Watt	Ayr

1877

Thomas John Fordyce Messer	Helensburgh
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1878

Alexander William Macfarlane	Kilmarnock
Robert Munro	Kilmarnock

1879

James Finlay	Helensburgh
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1880

William Stewart McKenzie
George McKerrow

Larkhall
Ayr

1881

William Hunter
John Lindsay
Alexander Napier

Rothesay
Lesmahagow
Crosshill

1882

John Dennistoun
Benjamin Maule Richard

Dunoon
Dumbarton

1885

William Haldane

Bridge of Allan

1887

Donald Fraser

Paisley

1889

John Highet
Peter Robertson

Troon
Milngavie

1890

John Robert Black

Greenock

1892

Matthew Anderson
Norman McLeod Clark
John Goff
William Aitken MacLeod
James Rutherford
William Robert Sewell

Kilbirnie
Rothesay
Bothwell
Kilmarnock
Dumfries
Helensburgh

1895

Lewis Daniel Alexander	Kilcreggan
Frederick Hugh Clarke	Dumfries
William Grant	Blantyre
Thomas Cochrane McGowan	Bellshill
James Paton	Greenock
David Sloan	Catrine

1896

John Nairn Marshall	Rothesay
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1898

John Gilmour	Duntocher
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1899

Ewing Hunter	Helensburgh
William Northcote Sime	Largs

1901

William Stewart Cook	Greenock
Joshua Ferguson	Paisley
William Grant MacPherson	Bothwell
Cuthbert Nairn	Greenock

1902

William Allan	Govan
William McAlister	Kilmarnock
Campbell Syme	Kilmacolm

Appendix 2**LIST OF DINNERS OF THE CLUB
1845-1902**

The Inaugural Dinner of the Club was held on 25th July 1845, and the First Dinner of the officially formed Western Medical Club was held on 30th January 1846. From then on, dinners were held twice a year, a winter dinner (usually in January, but later in April) in Glasgow, and a summer dinner (usually in July) elsewhere in the West of Scotland. An exception was in 1849, when the January dinner was cancelled because of the cholera epidemic, and another exception was in 1862, when the summer dinner of 25th July was actually held in Glasgow, the reason for which is not known.

After 1856, dinners were held only once a year, until 1865, a year when no dinner was held, apparently because the Secretary left Glasgow for Gatehouse-of-Fleet without notifying the Committee. Twice-yearly dinners were recommenced in 1867 and continued thereafter, apart from 1901 when the January dinner was cancelled as a mark of respect following the death of Queen Victoria on 22nd January 1901.

At each dinner, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the following dinner were appointed, and there was an unwritten rule that a Town Member would chair the winter dinner in Glasgow and a Country Member would chair the summer dinner elsewhere in the West of Scotland. This did not always follow precisely, since occasionally the nominated Officer, appointed some six months in advance, was prevented from attending, by unforeseen professional commitments, illness, or unfortunately even unexpected death. In the following list of Club dinners, the members who actually acted as Chairmen or Vice-Chairmen are given. Where known, those who were appointed but were unable actually to be present at the dinner have their names given in square brackets.

No.	Date	Town	Venue	Chairman	Vice-Chairman
1.	25.7.1845	Bowling	Bell's Inn	A.D. Anderson	R. Perry
2.	30.1.1846	Glasgow	Black Bull Hotel	R. Perry	J. Macfarlane [A.D. Anderson]
3.	31.7.1846	Bowling	Frisky Hall	J. Macfarlane	R. McKechnie
4.	29.1.1847	Glasgow	Wellington Hotel	R. McKechnie	W. Whiteside [J. Wilson]

5.	30.7.1847	Ayr	Auld's Hotel at Burns' Monument	W. Whiteside	J. Wilson
6.	28.1.1848	Glasgow	Buck's Head Hotel	J. Wilson	A. Macfadzean
7.	28.7.1848	Ardrossan	Eglinton Arms Hotel	A. Macfadzean	A.D. Anderson
	26.1.1849	Dinner cancelled because of cholera epidemic			
8.	27.7.1849	Inverkip	Inverkip Hotel	J. Campbell	A.D. Anderson
9.	25.1.1850	Glasgow	Star Hotel	A.D. Anderson	R. Buchanan
10.	26.7.1850	Bowling	Bell's Inn	R. Buchanan	W. Weir
11.	31.1.1851	Glasgow	Star Hotel	W. Weir	J. Paxton
12.	25.7.1851	Kilmarnock	George Hotel	J. Paxton	T. Marshall
13.	30.1.1852	Glasgow	Carrick's Hotel	T. Marshall	D. Hamilton
14.	30.7.1852	Mauchline	McLelland's Hotel	D. Hamilton	R. McKechnie [J.G. Fleming]
15.	28.1.1853	Glasgow	Carrick's Hotel	J.G. Fleming	C. Crawford
16.	29.7.1853	Greenock	Tontine Hotel	C. Crawford	G. Watt
17.	27.1.1854	Glasgow	Carrick's Hotel	G. Watt	C.F. Sloan
18.	28.7.1854	Ayr	King's Arms Hotel	C.F. Sloan	J. Aitken
19.	26.1.1855	Glasgow	Carrick's Hotel	J. Aitken	W. Baird
20.	27.7.1855	Renfrew	Woodrow's Hotel	W. Baird	J. Jeffray
21.	25.1.1856	Glasgow	Carrick's Hotel	J. Jeffray	J.C. Haldane
22.	25.7.1856	Ayr	King's Arms Hotel	J.C. Haldane	J.A. Easton
23.	24.4.1857	Glasgow	Carrick's Hotel	J.A. Easton	B.M. Richard
24.	25.6.1858	Balloch	Mitchell's Hotel	B.M. Richard	G. Watt [A. Buchanan]
25.	29.4.1859	Glasgow	George Hotel	A. Buchanan	J. Paxton
26.	27.7.1860	Kilmarnock	George Hotel	J.M. Aitken	W. Weir [J.M. Pagan]
27.	26.4.1861	Glasgow	George Hotel	J.M. Pagan	J. Wallace
28.	25.7.1862	Glasgow	George Hotel	J. Wallace	J.M. Pagan [C. Ritchie]

29.	24.4.1863	Glasgow	George Hotel	C. Ritchie	R. Buchanan [M. Maclaren]
30.	24.6.1864	Kilmarnock	George Hotel	J. Paxton [M. Maclaren]	J. Coats
Summer 1865 No dinner arranged because of absence of Secretary					
31.	25.7.1866	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	J. Coats	J. Pollock
32.	25.1.1867	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	J.G. Fleming [A. Anderson]	J. Pollock
33.	26.7.1867	Bowling	Bell's Inn	W. Graham [J. Pollock]	J.B. Cowan [A. Anderson]
34.	31.1.1868	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	J.B. Cowan	J. Wallace [D. McLeod]
35.	31.7.1868	Kilmarnock	George Hotel	D. McLeod	W. Leishman [G. Buchanan]
36.	29.1.1869	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	G. Buchanan	W. Allan
37.	30.7.1869	Balloch	Paddle steamer on Loch Lomond	W. Allan	R.D. Tannahill
38.	28.1.1870	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	R.D. Tannahill	J. Lawrence
39.	29.7.1870	Ayr	King's Arms Hotel	J. Lawrence	W. Lyon
40.	25.1.1871	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	W. Lyon	W.J. Marshall
41.	28.7.1871	Greenock	<i>P.S. Balmoral</i> on Firth of Clyde	W.J. Marshall	W. Leishman
42.	26.1.1872	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	W. Leishman	W. Alexander
43.	26.7.1872	Kilmarnock	George Hotel	W. Alexander	W. Leishman [G.H.B. Macleod]
44.	31.1.1873	Glasgow	McKain's Hotel	G.H.B. Macleod	A.M. Smith
45.	25.7.1873	Balloch	Saloon steamer on Loch Lomond	A.M. Smith	W.T. Gairdner
46.	31.1.1874	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	W.T. Gairdner	R.B. Robertson
47.	31.7.1874	Brodick	Douglas Hotel	W. Leishman [R.B. Robertson]	P.A. Simpson

48.	29.1.1875	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	P.A. Simpson	J. Wallace [J. Paxton]
49.	30.7.1875	Balloch	P.S. <i>Princess of Wales</i> on Loch Lomond	J. Wallace	J. Jeffray
50.	02.2.1876	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	J. Jeffray	J.B. Cowan [R. Dobbie]
51.	28.7.1876	Kilmarnock	George Hotel	R. Dobbie	J. Morton
52.	26.1.1877	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	J. Morton	B. Goff
53.	27.7.1877	Lanark	Clydesdale Arms	B. Goff	T.M. Anderson
54.	25.1.1878	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	T.M. Anderson	J. Gemmell
55.	26.7.1878	Inellan	Royal Hotel	J. Gemmell	R. Perry
56.	31.1.1879	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	R. Perry	W. Leishman [D.P. Stewart]
57.	25.7.1879	Kilmarnock	George Hotel	R. Munro [D.P. Stewart]	T.M. Anderson [G. Mather]
58.	30.1.1880	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	G. Mather	D. McKenzie
59.	30.7.1880	Balloch	P.S. <i>Princess of Wales</i> on Loch Lomond	G. Mather [D. McKenzie]	A.K. Irvine
60.	28.1.1881	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	A.K. Irvine	J. Robertson
61.	29.7.1881	Cumnock	Dumfries Arms	J. Robertson	L. Lawrence [R.S. Orr]
62.	27.1.1882	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	R.S. Orr	J. Caldwell
63.	28.7.1882	Greenock	P.S. <i>Shandon</i> on Firth of Clyde	J. Caldwell	J. McAllister [J.D. Maclaren]
64.	26.1.1883	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	J.D. Maclaren	J. McAllister
65.	27.7.1883	Kilmarnock	George Hotel	J. McAllister	J. Dunlop
66.	25.1.1884	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	J. Dunlop	J. Farquharson
67.	25.7.1884	Balloch	P.S. <i>Prince of Wales</i> on Loch Lomond	J. Farquharson	J. Young
68.	30.1.1885	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	J. Young	R.D. Reid
69.	25.6.1885	Aberfoyle	Old Aberfoyle Inn	R.D. Reid	W.A. Wilson [A. Fergus]

70.	28.1.1886	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	A. Fergus	W.A. Wilson
71.	24.6.1886	Craigendoran	P.S. <i>Shandon</i> on Firth of Clyde	W.A. Wilson	T. Reid
72.	27.1.1887	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	T. Reid	[A. Gilmour]
73.	30.6.1887	Balloch	P.S. <i>Prince of Wales</i> on Loch Lomond	R.D. Reid [A. Gilmour]	H.C. Cameron
74.	26.1.1888	Glasgow	Faculty Hall	H.C. Cameron	T. Graham
75.	28.6.1888	Ayr	Station Hotel	T. Graham	I. Finlayson
76.	31.1.1889	Glasgow	Grand Hotel	I. Finlayson	J.R. Watt
77.	27.6.1889	Kilmarnock	George Hotel	J.R. Watt	G.P. Tennent
78.	30.1.1890	Glasgow	Grand Hotel	G.P. Tennent	T.G.F. Messer
79.	26.6.1890	Helensburgh	Victoria Halls	T.G.F. Messer	J. Coats
80.	29.1.1891	Glasgow	Grand Hotel	J. Coats	W.S. McKenzie
81.	25.6.1891	Bothwell	Clyde Hotel	W.S. McKenzie	J.E. Brodie
82.	28.1.1892	Glasgow	Bath Hotel	J.E. Brodie	G. McKerrow
83.	30.6.1892	Ayr	Station Hotel	G. McKerrow	W.J. Fleming
84.	26.1.1893	Glasgow	Grand Hotel	W.J. Fleming	D. Yellowlees
85.	29.6.1893	Stirling	Royal Hotel	D. Yellowlees	J.B. Russell
86.	25.1.1894	Glasgow	Grand Hotel	J.B. Russell	A. Napier
87.	25.6.1894	Inellan	Royal Hotel	A. Napier	A.W. Smith
88.	31.1.1895	Glasgow	Grand Hotel	A.W. Smith	W.R. Watson
89.	27.6.1895	Tarbet	Tarbet Hotel	W.R. Watson	G.T. Beatson
90.	30.1.1896	Glasgow	North British Station Hotel	G.T. Beatson	W. Haldane
91.	25.6.1896	Bridge of Allan	Royal Hotel	W. Haldane	S. Gemmell
92.	28.1.1897	Glasgow	Grand Hotel	S. Gemmell	D. Fraser
93.	24.6.1897	Paisley	George A. Clark Town Hall	D. Fraser	D. Newman
94.	27.1.1898	Glasgow	Prince of Wales Restaurant	D. Newman	J.R. Black

95.	30.6.1898	Greenock	P.S. <i>Mercury</i> on Firth of Clyde	J.R. Black	J.C. Renton
96.	26.1.1899	Glasgow	Prince of Wales Restaurant	J.C. Renton	J. Rutherford
97.	29.6.1899	Dumfries	Station Hotel	J. Rutherford	H.E. Clark
98.	25.1.1900	Glasgow	Central Station Hotel	H.E. Clark	J. Goff
99.	28.6.1900	Balloch	P.S. <i>Empress</i> on Loch Lomond	J. Goff	W. Downie
January 1901 Dinner cancelled because of death of Queen Victoria on 22.1.1901					
100.	27.6.1901	Craigendoran	P.S. <i>Lady Rowena</i> on Firth of Clyde	E.H. Clarke	W. Downie
101.	30.1.1902	Glasgow	Central Station Hotel	W. Downie	W. Grant

Appendix 3**THE LAWS OF THE WESTERN MEDICAL CLUB**

As agreed on 5th December 1866

- I The Club shall be called 'The Western Medical Club'.
- II The number of Members shall be limited to Sixty, of whom thirty shall be medical practitioners residing in Glasgow, within the parliamentary boundary, and thirty in any other part of the Western District of Scotland.
- III Every Candidate for admission must be duly qualified to practise Medicine or Surgery.
- IV The Club shall dine twice a year; on the last Friday in January, and the last Friday in July. The January Meeting shall always be held in Glasgow, and the July Meeting at a convenient place in the West of Scotland.

The Chairman for the time being shall be entitled to invite to the Club Dinner, and at the expense of the Club, two Guests, who, however, shall not be medical practitioners resident in the district where the Dinner is taking place. Each Member may invite one medical friend, not to be a resident medical practitioner, at his own expense.

Members not intimating within the time specified in the Billet, their inability to attend the Club Dinner, shall thereby incur a fine of five shillings.

- V At each Meeting a Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be appointed for the next Meeting.
- VI The Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the late Chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary shall constitute the Committee of Management, to which shall be entrusted the regulation of the ordinary affairs of the Club.
- VII Every Candidate for admission shall be recommended by two Members, who must subscribe the proposal and hand it to the Secretary at least fifteen days before the Meeting at which the Ballot is to take place. The names of Candidates, and the hour fixed for the Ballot, shall always be intimated on the card calling the Meeting.

- VIII No Ballot for admission of a Member shall take place unless ten are present; and no Candidate shall be held as elected unless it appears that six Members have voted for him. One black ball for every ten Members voting shall exclude.
- IX The proposal of a Member shall not be noted in the Minutes; but his election shall be recorded there, and intimation of it sent to him by the Secretary.
- X Every Member shall pay half a guinea on his being elected and ten shillings of Annual Subscription, payable on the first of January. The funds thus raised shall be applied to the general expenses of the Club at the discretion of the Committee of Management.
- XI 1. When a Member has been absent from four consecutive Meetings, he shall cease to belong to the Club. When he has been absent from three consecutive Meetings, the Secretary in intimating the next Meeting shall call his attention to this rule.
2. When a Member is pecuniarily in arrears, in respect of Entry Money, Annual Subscription or Fines, for more than two years, due intimation of such arrears having been made to him by the Treasurer, he shall cease to belong to the Club.
3. Members whose connection with the Club may lapse in terms of this Law are eligible for re-election, as vacancies may occur, in the same terms as new Members, on their giving explanations which may seem satisfactory to the Committee of Management, and paying any sums which be standing against them in the Treasurer's Books.
- XII The Treasurer shall take charge of the funds of the Club and keep all the accounts. His cash book must be examined and docqueted once a year by two of the members of the Committee of Management.
- XIII The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings and take a general charge of the business of the Club. He shall give ten days' notice of the Meetings to each Member.
- XIV The proposal of a new Law, or of any alteration of a Law, must be made in writing, signed by three Members and given to the Secretary, at least one month prior to the Meeting. Intimation of the proposal shall be made on the

card calling the Meeting. In order to carry it into a Law, twelve Members must be present, and three-fourths of those present must vote for it.

These Laws, agreed to at the Special General Meeting of the Club held on 5th December 1866, do not contain a Law concerning the election of Honorary Members, which had been agreed at the winter dinner in the Star Hotel in Glasgow on 31st January 1851.

This situation was rectified at the meeting on 28th January 1881, when the undernoted section on Honorary Members was added to the revised Laws of the Club. Apart from some slight modifications to Law IV, whereby the restriction on inviting other medical practitioners as guests was removed, members failing to give due notice of absence being charged the full price of the dinner, and an increase in entry money to two guineas and annual subscription to fifteen shillings, no other significant changes were made to the Laws of the Club in the 1881 revision.

HONORARY MEMBERS

1. The number of Honorary Members is limited to six - three Town and three Country.
2. The Honorary List shall consist chiefly of former Ordinary Members, whose seniority and position entitle them to this special mark of distinction; and also, under special circumstances, of distinguished members of the profession who may not have been Members of the Club.
3. The names of Honorary Members shall, as vacancies occur, be suggested by the Committee of Management, and intimated on the Billet; and for the election of each Honorary Member a show of hands shall be taken at an Ordinary Meeting, when at least three-fourths of the Members present must vote in favour of the proposal.
4. The Secretary shall intimate to the Honorary Members the Ordinary Meetings of the Club; and they shall be entitled, on signifying their intention to the Secretary, not later than the Tuesday preceding the Meeting, and on paying their share of the Dinner Bill, to dine with the Club.



Appendix 4

FAVOURITE SONGS OF THE CLUB

(Words obtained from the music department of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow)

The Miller of the Dee

There was a jolly miller once lived on the river Dee
He worked and sang from morn till night, no lark more blithe than he
And this the burden of his song forever used to be
I care for nobody, no not I, if nobody cares for me.

The reason why he was so blithe he once did thus unfold
The bread I eat my hands have earned, I covet no man's gold
I do not fear next quarter-day, in debt to none I be
I care for nobody, no not I, if nobody cares for me.

A coin or two I've in my purse to help a needy friend
A little I can give the poor and still have some to spend
Though I may fail, yet I rejoice, another's good hap to see
I care for nobody, no not I, if nobody cares for me.

So let his example take and be from malice free
Let everyone his neighbour serve, as served he'd like to be
And merrily push the can about and drink and sing with glee
If nobody cares a doit for us, why, not a doit care we.

You'll Remember Me

When other lips and other hearts
Their tales of love shall tell
In language whose excess imparts
The power they feel so well
There may perhaps in such a scene
Some recollection be
Of days that have so happy been
And you'll remember me.

When coldness of deceit shall slight
 The beauty now you prize
 And deem it but a faded light
 Which beams within your eyes
 When hollow hearts shall wear a mask
 'Twould break thine own to see;
 In such a moment I but ask
 That you'll remember me.

The Reformer

Oh! weary fa' Reform an' Whigs!
 That ever they were invented!
 An' wae's me for any auld gudeman,
 He's fairly gane demented;
 He grunts an' growls frae morn to nicht
 About pensions and taxation;
 He's ruined wi' meetings got up for the gude
 O' the workin' population.

The fient a turn o' wark he'll do
 To save us frae starvation;
 He leaves his horse to sort the coo,
 For he maun sort the nation.
 The fient he'll do but read the news-
 An' he reads wi' sic attention,
 That his breeks are a' worn out in a place
 Which I'm ashamed to mention.

He gangs to publics ilka nicht,
 An' ilka groat he'll spend it,
 An' how he gets hame in siccan a plicht-
 I canna comprehend it.
 An' then hes sons, like three was Hams,
 Launch at their drucken daddie,
 As doun on the floor wi' a clout he slams,
 Wi' een like a Monday's haddie.

Afore the Whigs began their rigs,
 He was another creature;
 His een were bricht as stars at nicht,

An' plump was every feature.
His brow was like the lily white,
His cheeks as red as roses;
He had a back like Wallace wicht,
An' a thicker beard than Moses.

But now he's lost his comely look,
An' lost his stalwart figure;
His een are sinkin' into his head,
An' his nose is growin' bigger;
His houchs are gane, he's a' owerta'en,
An' fushionless as a wether;
His back sticks out, an' his wame fa's in-
An' he's a' reformed thegether!

Oh! dinna ye mind, mu auld gudeman,
When first we cam' thegether,
How cheerily our wark gaed on,
How pleased we were wi'ither?
An' your breath was sweet as the new-mawn hay,
An' nop like a rotten ingan.
Oh! just to think what ye were then,
An' now what ye are brocht to!

Ye're far waur aff than ever ye were
Before Reform was thocht o';
For then, when you wanted a mark to your wame,
He made an unco wark, man;
But what's to be done wi' ye now, when ye ha'e na,
A wame to put in your sark, man?

Oh! gin we wad but mind your plough,
An' mind your empty pockets,
'Twere wiser like than drink and read
Your een out o' their sockets.
Leave them that kens to mak' the laws-
An' while your breeks will mend, man,
Just leave the nation to look to itsel',
An' look you to your hinder end, man!

The Monks of Old

Many have told
Of the monks of old,
What a saintly race they were.
But, 'tis most true,
That a merrier crew
Could scarce be found elsewhere.
For they sang and laughed
And the rich wine quaffed,
And lived on the daintiest cheer.
For they laughed ha, ha,
And they quaffed ha, ha,
And lived on the daintiest cheer.

And then they would jest
At the love confessed
By many an artless maid.
And what hopes and fears
They had breathed in the ears
Of those who had sought their aid.
And they sang and laughed
And through wine quaffed,
As they told of each love-sick jade.
And they laughed ha, ha,
And they quaffed ha, ha,
As they told of each love-sick jade.

And the Abbot so meek,
With his form so sleek,
Was the heartiest of them all.
And would take his place
With a smiling face
When refection bell would call.
When they sang and laughed
And the rich wine quaffed,
Till they shook the olden wall.
And they laughed ha, ha,
And they quaffed ha, ha,
Till they shook the olden wall.

They say what they will,
We will drink to them still,
For a jovial band they were.
And 'tis most true
That a merrier crew
Could scarce be found elsewhere.
For they sang and laughed
And the rich wine quaffed,
And lived on the daintiest cheer.
For they laughed ha, ha,
And they quaffed ha, ha,
And lived on the daintiest cheer.

The Lark now Leaves his Watery Nest

The lark now leaves his watery nest,
And climbing, shakes his dewy wings.
He takes this window for the east
And to implore your light he sings:
Awake, awake the morn will never rise,
Till she can dress her beauty at your eyes;
Awake, awake, the morn will never rise,
Till she can dress her beauty at your eyes.

The merchant bows into the seaman's star,
The ploughman from the sun his season takes.
But still the lover wonders what they are,
Who look for day before his mistress wakes.
Awake, awake the morn will never rise,
Till she can dress her beauty at your eyes;
Awake, awake the morn will never rise,
Till she can dress her beauty at your eyes.

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Notes

1. The Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow became the Royal Faculty in 1909, and the Royal College in 1962. Throughout this early history it is correctly referred to as the Faculty.
2. In the Club's Minute Book Dr. David Gibson, Lecturer in Botany at Portland Street Medical School, is listed as one of the eleven "members of the Medical Profession resident in Glasgow" who attended the Inaugural Dinner at Bell's Inn on 25th July 1845. At this Inaugural Dinner he was appointed one of the six members of the preliminary Committee of Management to draw up a constitution for the Club, but apparently did not attend the committee meetings held on 8th August or 29th December 1845. His name does not appear in the early list of dinner attendances, nor in the list of Founder Members subsequently entered by the Secretary into the Club's Minute Book. Since he clearly attended the Inaugural Dinner, one can only speculate as to the reasons for his subsequent omission.
3. In the *Clyde District of Dumbartonshire* this railway is called the "Caledonian and Dumbarton" railway (Macleod, 1886), but in the *History of the Parish of West or Old Kilpatrick* (Bruce, 1893) it is called the "Balloch and Dumbarton" railway. In 1858 another railway was opened from Glasgow to Bowling, connected there to the Balloch line and extended from it at Dalreoch to Helensburgh. This was owned at first by the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway Company, and was later taken over by the North British Railway Company.
4. The new Secretary appointed in July 1851, Dr. J.A. Easton, was a very beautiful writer; he was still using double "f" for "s" in the minutes, and he had a remarkable ability to write long sentences, as witness this proposed Law alteration where there are 155 words in the same sentence.
5. A *Vidimus* is a copy of a document bearing an attestation that it is authentic and accurate.
6. Buchanan's personal diary of his Crimean experiences, a splendid example of field recording and the document on which his volume of memoirs was based, is in the library of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (Rodger, pers. comm.).
7. According to Shepherd (1991) many young British doctors went out to the Crimea "merely as visitors, either from curiosity or in the hope of gaining experience of military surgery as a means of advancing their reputations at home", but the activities of George H.B. Macleod were sufficiently unusual to be worth recording.

Macleod qualified at Glasgow in 1853, and was keen to visit the seat of war. Early in March 1854 he sailed in a private yacht to the Mediterranean, armed with a letter of introduction from Sir James McGrigor, Director-General of the Army Medical Services in the Peninsular campaign, which stated amongst other things that Macleod was "the son of the Rev. Dr. Macleod, Dean of the

Chapel Royal, Edinburgh". Macleod changed to a troopship at Malta and sailed on to Constantinople, from where he moved to Scutari to visit the hospital. He then moved on to Varna, but getting no job "he returned home leisurely, visiting various European capitals on route". Shortly after his return home he met the mother of Captain George Campbell of the 1st Dragoons, who had been severely wounded at the Alma. Mrs Campbell asked Macleod to go out and look after her son and to accompany him back to Scotland when he was convalescent. Macleod left Scotland in November, travelled to the Crimea by the quickest route, and actually returned with his patient in January 1855. During this visit of about six weeks, Macleod had the opportunity of observing at first hand what was happening in the Crimea and at Scutari, and reported his findings to the Headquarters of the Army Medical Services in London. Macleod must have made a very good impression, for very shortly afterwards he was appointed Staff-Surgeon and Deputy Superintendent at the hospital at Smyrna. Unfortunately Shepherd also records that "Macleod, appearing resplendent in his new uniform and cheered by his friends, promptly fell into a puddle" (Shepherd, 1991: 444).

8. Photograph of medical staff of Anderson's College about 1863, with index of names. From Archives of Greater Glasgow Health Board, held at Glasgow University.
9. *Glasgow Medical Journal* (1854), 2: 330-336. Dr. J.A. Easton, Physician in the Cholera Hospital and Lecturer in Materia Medica, reported nine cases treated with repeated doses of castor oil. Seven died - treatment terminated.
10. *Glasgow Medical Journal* (1877), 9(NS): 433-445. Dr. Samson Gemmell in Professor Gairdner's wards; treatment of acute and chronic rheumatism with salicine and salicylate of soda.
11. In the Reference Department of Paisley Central Library there is a report, printed in Edinburgh in 1834, by Mr. Thomas Grainger and Mr. John Miller, civil engineers of Edinburgh, about a proposed railway from the River Clyde at Renfrew Ferry to Paisley. This report states that the railway line would start at the River Clyde, some 100 yards west of the wharf recently constructed at Renfrew Ferry opposite Yoker, and the Paisley terminus was to be at Hamilton Street. Steam engines were to be used on the line, since it was considered that this would be quicker and more economical than sailing up the River Cart, even if a lock were to be installed at the mouth of the River Cart to prevent tidal changes from affecting the sailings. The report suggests that expenditure would include:

Two locomotive engines and tenders at £750 each	£1,500
Forty wagons for freight at £15.00 each	600
Six carriages for passengers at £50.00 each	300

A report in the *Paisley Daily Express* of 29th October 1984 (Anon., 1984) said that the Renfrew Ferry to Paisley railway line was opened to traffic on 3rd April 1837. Steam engines were used at first, but passenger traffic did not justify their continued use. Most freight was conveyed by ship along the River Cart to Paisley, and in 1842 the railway line changed over to horse-drawn

traction. This continued until 1866, so when the members of the Club held their summer dinner in 1855 at Woodrow's Hotel, the carriages on the railway line must have been horse-drawn. The two hotels at Renfrew Ferry were Woodrow's Hotel and Posting Inn, at 7 Clyde Street, Renfrew, and the Railway Inn.

12. The history of the end of the City of Glasgow Bank is that it ceased trading on 1st October 1878, and later investigation showed that its liabilities were £12,400,000 while its assets were only £7,200,00. It was established that the balance sheets had been falsified for many years. At the High Court trial in Edinburgh the Directors of the Bank were found guilty of uttering false balance sheets, and were duly sentenced. Two thousand families suffered severe losses.
13. Bob Sawyer is a character in Charles Dickens' *The Pickwick Papers*, and his adventures as a medical student, and later as a doctor, were apparently popular with members of the Club.
14. Copy of *Macalister* received from Dr. Alexander Imrie, formerly Consultant Physician, Glasgow Royal Infirmary.
15. Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow: Minutes 13.9.1888 and 19.9.1888.
16. This song appears in Charles Dickens' *The Pickwick Papers*, published in 1837. At the end of chapter seven:

"Just before midnight a convocation of worthies of Dingley Dell and Muggleton were heard to sing:

We won't go home till morning,
 We won't go home till morning,
 We won't go home till morning,
 Till daylight doth appear."

Charles Dickens' quotations, mainly from *The Pickwick Papers*, appear quite often in the minutes of the Club. It seems that he was very popular in the city. After his appearance at a soiree in the City Hall in 1847, he described his reception by the people of Glasgow as being "with unbounded hospitality and enthoozymoozz the order of the day. I have never been more heartily received anywhere and enjoyed myself more completely". He appeared at least a dozen times in Glasgow between 1847 and 1869 - the year before he died. He stood as Lord Rector in 1858, but trailed as an also-ran behind Sir Edward Bulwer-Lytton (re-elected) and Lord Shaftesbury, a close second.
17. Adamant: a legendary stone said to be impenetrable; often compared with the diamond or lodestone.
18. Copy of dinner menu of 23rd January 1899 received from Professor John M.A. Lenihan.

19. The West Highland Railway was opened on 7th August 1894. It ran from Glasgow (Queen Street) to Fort William, and there were three services up and down the line each day.
20. William Burke (1792-1829) and his fellow Irishman and landlord in Edinburgh, William Hare, were arrested in 1828 for the murder of at least fifteen people and the digging-up of many corpses to sell to the medical schools. Hare turned Queen's evidence, and Burke was hanged in 1829. Dr. Robert Knox, the anatomist who was involved in buying the 'bodies', came to Glasgow to try to continue his professional career after Hare was hanged. He was one of the last lecturers in 1844 at Portland Street Medical School, which was finally closed down shortly afterwards. In the *Glasgow Medical Journal* (Anon., 1871), many years after Dr. Knox was forced to retire as a lecturer in anatomy, there was a review of a book on Robert Knox "by his pupil and colleague" Dr. Henry Lonsdale, who wrote in Dr. Knox's defence:
- "In Glasgow he gained some friends and admirers, but no bread or butter. So small was his last anatomy class that he returned his fees to his pupils and resigned. The city of big chimneys, bigger piety and biggest of all in the use of alcoholic liquors in Scotland was not for Robert Knox".
21. The bill heading showed that this hotel was run by the Glasgow and South Western Railway Co., who at the time also owned hotels at Ayr and St. Enoch Station, Glasgow, and had restaurants at these three stations and at Kilmarnock and Greenock (Princes Pier).
22. This hotel was owned by the Caledonian Railway Co., who also owned Buchanan Street Station Hotel. At this time they also had Station Hotels at Stirling, Airdrie, Gourock, and Edinburgh Princess Street Station or the 'Calais' as it was later known.
23. Mr. Gordon Bennett's yacht, the *Lysistrata*, had been built at Dumbarton the year before by William Denny and Brothers Ltd., with a gross displacement of 1,942 tons and a speed of 19.3 knots. At that time she was the largest and fastest privately owned ship in the world. This James Gordon Bennett was the man who financed Stanley's successful search for Dr. David Livingstone, who was a Licentiate of the Glasgow Faculty.
- Bennett's father, also James Gordon Bennett, was born in Scotland, but later went to the U.S.A. where he founded the *New York Herald* in 1835. The son became Editor of the *New York Herald* in 1867, and sent Stanley on his search for Livingstone in 1871.
- Gordon Bennett died in 1914, and the yacht was sold to Russia, where it served as a gunboat, and later as a fishery protection vessel.
24. The *Empress* was originally the 90-gun ship H.M.S. *Revenge*. She was launched in 1861, and on her maiden voyage from Pembroke Docks she carried a crew of 860 men. She was powered by sail and steam; if using sails, the funnel could be lowered to the deck and the propeller lifted up below the stern. The *Revenge* was in turn the flagship of the Channel Fleet, the Mediterranean Squadron, and the Irish Station (Lecky, 1913-14).

Other Sources

The vast bulk of the information for this early history of the Western Medical Club comes, of course, from the first Minute Book of the Club, but much additional background and historical information has been obtained by searching the relevant years of the undernoted journals, directories, works of reference, and collected archives, and the author's grateful thanks are extended to the various Librarians and Archivists who have so generously assisted:

Annual Report of Glasgow Royal Infirmary

Archives of Greater Glasgow Health Board

British Medical Journal

Encyclopaedia of Dates and Events

Glasgow Medical Journal

Medical Directory

Medical Register

Minutes of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow

New Statistical Account of Scotland

Scottish Medical Directory

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